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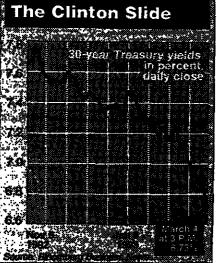
Interest-Rate Bets Pour In

30-Year U.S. Treasury Falls to 6.72% Amid Employment Pessimism

Compiled by Our Staff From Disputches
WASHINGTON -- Two weak U.S. economic reports released Thursday pushed yields in the bond market down to their lowest levels ever as investors bet that the Federal Reserve would have to lower interest rates to keep the recovery on track.

The benchmark 30-year U.S. Treasury bond's yield tumbled to 6.72 percent from 6.78 percent after the Labor Department reported that unemployment claims surged in the latest

Claims jumped by 26,000 in the week ended Feb. 20, underlining the singgish creation of jobs in the United States. Most analysts had expected a decline in the figure, which was all the more surprising because the working week was shortened by the President's Day holiday. Adding to the gloom was a report by the Commerce Department, which said orders received by U.S. factories fell in January at the



eepest rate in five months, primarily because of weaker demand for aircraft and parts. The 1.3 percent drop in orders, to \$254.99 billion was the biggest monthly drop since a 2.2 percent decline last August.

Both figures confirm the pattern of slowing

economic growth in the early part of this year after brisk expansion in the fourth quarter of

"There could be more weakness ahead for the economy," said Marco Babic, an economist at Evans Economics. "This will lend support for President Clinton's plan to stimulate the econo-

The bond market railied for the second See MARKET, Page 12

Bond Yields U.S. Makes an Arrest in Tower Bombing



HEALTH COSTS — Hillary Rodham Clinton at a New Orleans steel mill, where she ators John B. Breanx and J. Bennett Johnston, and Representative William J. Jeffdiscussed health care Thursday with uninsured workers. With her, from left, are Sen-erson. The White House rebuffed the medical lobby on a bigger say in reform. Page 3.

Airdrop Shows Limits of U.S. Policy in Bosnia Accurate Delivery Proves Too Risky Moderate Serbs See the Road to Peace

By Michael R. Gordon New York Times Service

WASHINGTON - Although the Clinton administration has presented the airdrop of relief supplies into Bosnia-Herzegovina as a demonstration of resolve to protect the beleaguered Bosnian Muslims, the mission has instead come to symbolize the limitations of

In four days of airlifts, American C-130s have dropped almost 77 tons of food and medicine, aiming at spots near three Bosnian towns. A considerable amount appears to have been delivered where it was intended.

But, as is the case with the ground convoys' carrying food and medicine into the region, much of the assistance has been diverted. And the first priority of the forces delivering the aid appears to be to protect themselves, and not

run any serious risks in delivering the aid. By attacking one of the Bosnian towns that the Americans are trying to reach, the Serbs have also disrupted the operation without pen-alty. Although the United States has said it is trying to stop the Serbs from starving the

Bosnian Muslims out of their towns, the administration and the rest of the world have watched from afar as the Serbs attacked the very people whom Washington was trying to

Bill Clinton's campaign oratory on the Balkans was sweeping and ambitious. Just before his inauguration in January, he sent what

NEWS ANALYSIS

seemed a strong message, declaring that "the legitimacy of ethnic cleansing cannot stand." But from the beginning, the objectives of the airdrop were far more limited. By the time it was announced, the administration, under pressure from European governments and the nternational negotiators, Cyrus R. Vance and Lord Owen, had backed away from candidate Clinton's suggestions that Washington consider arming the outgumed Bosnian government or conducting air strikes against the Serbs.

Unlike those ideas, the airdrop was never See AIRDROP, Page 4

By Craig R. Whitney New York Times Service

BELGRADE - Surprisingly, the recent military airdrops of humanitarian supplies into eastern Bosnia-Herzegovina by the United States, and the offer of similar actions by Russia, have been welcomed by many Serbs who see U.S.-Russian cooperation within the

It is not clear how much influence any of these people have on the president of Serbia, Slobodan Milosevic. The United Nations has linked much of the violence to his nationalistic

United Nations as the only hope of ending the

But those who suggest that the time has come for compromise include the principal olicy adviser to President Dobrica Cosic of the rump Yugoslav federation and Serb intellectuals who say they are appalled by the violence and at what international sanctions are doing to their country.

All of them agree that it will take a major UN peacekeeping force to enforce a cease-fire among Serbs, Croats and Muslims in Bosnia and disputed areas of Croatia where most of

the recent fighting has taken place. Real peace, they feel, will take many years to restore in a part of the world where people of different cultures and religions have been tearing each other apart for hundreds of years. "It is a time for humility and reconsider-ation for all considered," said Svetozar Stojan-

U.S. rejects suggestion that Bosnia airdrops could spark terrorism or a wider war. Page 2.

ovic, Mr. Cosic's adviser. "There must be pressure on all three sides to reach an agreement, but even after it is reached, UN troops will have to come in to separate the combatants. Perhaps they could start in the big places, like from there."

As he and other Serbian defense intellectuals here see it, Mr. Milosevic and the Serbian government he leads should not be the only

targets of international sanctions. There's not a single evil mastermind behind

See SERBS, Page 4

Germany Blazes an Industrial Trail East

By Tom Redburn

nal Herald Tribun MLADA BOLESLAV, Czech Republic Not long ago, automobiles produced at the big Skoda factory complex in this dingy company town about a hour's drive northeast of Prague came in just two basic colors, with windows that did not roll all the way down and doors

that closed with a tinny clang.

But today, less than two years after Volkswagen AG took control of the operation in what is still the largest single Western invest-ment project in Eastern Europe, sharply im-proved Skodas already are rolling off the assembly line in greater numbers and variety than ever before. And with them, as the new cars start moving across Enrope, is coming the first tangible evidence of an expanding industrial empire that is gradually beginning to spread

from a rich but beleaguered Germany to the newly free, but much poorer, countries lying in its considerable shadow.

It is post-Cold War, post-Maastricht and post-1992," said David Roche, chief European investment strategist at Morgan Stanley International in London. "Another new European order is being cast, with Germany at its core. Even as all eyes are on the problems of Western Europe and the chaos in the Balkans,

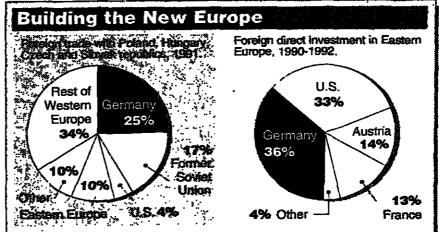
in Central and Eastern Europe a potentially powerful economic sphere is in the making," Mr. Roche added. "The real battleground for political power, investment, growth and influence in the new Europe is the East."

Despite the recent sharp investment increase by companies from other countries - particularly the United States and Italy -in such East European trailblazers as Poland, Hungary and

the newly split Czech and Slovak republics, the nt economic player in the region is still clearly Germany. That is especially true in the economically promising Czech Republic, which has a long industrial tradition dating back to the Austro-Hungarian empire and a stable goverroment with a deep public commitment to a rapid transformation from communism to capi-

Of the estimated \$2.7 billion in foreign investment through the end of 1992 in what was then Czechoslovakia (nine-tenths went to the Czech Republic), German companies accounted for nearly 40 percent. Half of the new industry ventures with foreign investment have had German partners. Meanwhile, U.S. business was in second place, contributing slightly

See EAST, Page 13



Sources: PlanEcon, EIU Vienna, East European Investment Magazine, Morgan Stanley

High-Stake Swiss Vote: Whether to Gamble a Solid Image on Big-Time Casinos

By Brandon Mitchener

International Herald Tribune Switzerland, a country that conjures images of chocolate, secretive banks and cuckoo clocks, is facing a change that critics say would add poker, prostitution and loud music at three

Whether to allow serious casino gambling is the question facing voters on Sunday, and op-

ponents say disaster would be the result. "We cannot shut our eyes," said Andre Bronimann, a Lausanne lawyer leading the fight against what he sees as an open invitation to disaster. "Switzerland is strong. Our banks are full of gold, our workers are industrious, our politicians are serious. Why do we need casinos?" Increased revenue for the government is one reason. A preliminary decision on ending the

Swiss ban on big-time gambling is due Sunday, when voters cast ballots on a constitutional amendment supported by the tourist industry, the government and unions. Sources said the outcome was likely to be close.

gained an unwelcome reputation for wildness. legalize higher stakes. Proponents say the Though gambling was decriminalized in 1956, change could help attract tourists and bring the expand the kinds of games that can be played.

Swiss trancs (\$3.35). "Then that was probably the price of a bottle

of wine, and now it's the price of two beers." The Swiss have never been big gamblers.

They banned gambling in 1874 after Geneva

of wine, and now it's the price of two beers."

scoffed Pierre Triponez, the director for a union of small business and leader of the campaign to

lawmakers determined to take the fun out of losing money limited the highest stake to 5 Opponents say it will lead to an increase in money laundering and gambling addiction.

If the amendment wins majorities of the popular and cantonal votes, parliament will set a new limit on bets, probably a couple of

Kiosk

Zambia Declares State of Emergency

LUSAKA, Zambia (Reuters) - President Frederick Chiluba declared a state of conergency in Zambia on Thursday night. Speaking on state radio and television, he cited a potential threat to security in the country from certain sectors of society. While he did not specify the threat, diplo-

mats said Mr. Chiluba was obviously referring to an alleged coup plot to overthrow his government by fomenting civil strife. Reports of an alleged plot surfaced last week. Mr. Chiluba also said without elaborating that Zambia was reviewing relations with Iran and Iraq.

General News

The Clinton campaign sur-passed the Republicans in collecting "soft cash" do-Page 3.

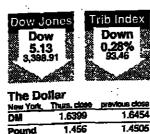
China, short on hard cash., sells Americans a lot of guns these days. Page 3.

A gray Paris suburb is getting a rare shower of elec-Page 2 toral sparks.

"The Truffle Emperor" of Provence claims to serve 1,000 kilograms of the glorious tuber a year in his Business/Finance

Page & Salomon suffered heavy losses early this Page 11. India is easing currency re-

strictions again. Page 15.



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A Prophesier Worries About Business

By Gustav Niebuhr ington Post Service

WASHINGTON - Harold Camping, who heads a chain of 38 Christian radio stations, calls the cult leader David Koresh "a terrible aberration.

Before Mr. Koresh's sect, the Branch Davidians, shot it out with federal agents in Waco, Texas, this week, Mr. Koresh got involved in apocalyptic prophecy, reportedly telling followers that his unmatched biblical knowledge would allow him to unleash earth-shaking catastrophes and guarantee cult members passage to heaven.

Mr. Camping worries that after Mr. Koresh, many people will "group prophecies all togeth-er." And that could be a problem, because Mr. Camping is trying to spread the word that the Bible foretells the end of the world next year. Around Labor Day 1994, he said, the earth will erupt in earthquakes, fires and assorted trauma. Then, between Sept. 15 and Sept. 27, Jesus Christ will return in glory. The righteous

will rise to heaven, while the rest will start serving eternal sentences in hell, according to Mr. Camping. The 71-year-old president of Family Stations Inc. in Oakland, California. has detailed his research in a 552-page paperback called "1994?" of which more than 40,000 copies are in print.

"I would say it is thoroughly based on bibli-

Cult leader releases another child. Page 3.

cal data that can be checked out," he said. "And the big question is: Are you ready?" As the troubled 20th century draws to a close, the United States has become a land echoing with the rumble of apocalyptic proph-

Most comes from peaceful voices crying out in a largely secular wilderness. A few, like Mr. Camping are both well-known and respected among many religious persons. But prophecy has its dark side, too, as vividly demonstrated by Mr. Koresh and his cult.

Apocalyptic scenarios appeal to groups like the Branch Davidians, which are characterized by "militant elitism or exclusivism," said Ron Enroth, professor of sociology at Westmont College in Montecito, California, Cults often use prophecy to "tighten the noose of membership." predicting a future "where only they will be saved," he said.

As many as 600 groups and individuals are engaged in proclaiming the coming of "global transformations" often featuring warfare, floods and earthquakes, said Ted Daniels, who runs the Millennium Watch Institute in Philadelphia and publishes a newsletter. "Millennium News," which monitors such predictions. He attributed it to the approach of the year

"I think that's getting people excited," Mr.

Daniels said. "It seems to follow in people's minds that there ought to be some huge change. All those zeros pop up on the odometer and it's got to mean something."

Muslim Held, By the FBI, Search On for Accomplices

NEW YORK -- FBI agents on Thursday arrested a man described as a Muslim funda-mentalist in the bombing of the World Trade Center and said accomplices were being sought. The suspect was arrested when he tried to recover a \$400 deposit on a rented van he claimed had been stolen. Officials believe the

vehicle was destroyed when the explosives were detonated. The suspect was taken into custody after he presented the rental agency with identification papers covered with nitrates, a government source told The Associated Press. Nitrates are

same van was used to transport the bomb to the garage under the World Trade Center. The

found in some explosives, and traces of nitrates were discovered at the blast site. The arrest appeared to mark a major breakthrough in solving the most fearsome U.S. bombing in years. The enormous blast in a garage under the 110-story twin towers — the world's second-tallest buildings — killed five people and injured more than 1,000 others.

Salama Mohammed, 26, of Jersey City, New Jersey City is at the other end of the Holland Tunnel from lower Manhattan where the World Trade Center stands. Seen from the New Jersey side of the Hudson River, the mammoth trade

An FBI official identified the suspect as

center towers dominate the eastern skyline. A government source said the suspect was a member of a Muslim fundamentalist group. FBI agents told the Jersey City police that the man was affiliated with a mosque attended by suspects in the assassinations of President An war Sadat of Egypt and the Israeli rightist extremist Meir Kahane, a Jersey City official

At a press conference in Washington, acting Attorney General Stuart Gerson said: "We're interested in more than the single individual

who has been apprehended." He would not provide further details, except to say that the suspect would be arraigned in New York later in the day.

The suspect, who was arrested without inci-dent, is believed to belong to a terrorist organi-zation and is not an American national, a government source said.

Another source said the FBI was weighing a theory that the bombing was staged in retaliation for the Gulf War, in which the United States ousted the Iraqi Army from Kuwait. The blast last Friday occurred on the second anni-

FBI investigators were trying to determine if the suspect had acted under Iraqi sponsorship, the source said. The suspect had been known to the FBI in the past as a result of the bureau's counterterrorism efforts, the source added.

A Clinton administration official cautioned however, that the evidence of Mideast terrorist involvement was "iffy."

The FBI director, William S. Sessions, at the

news conference with Mr. Gerson, declined to comment when pressed for details, including whether officials believed the bombing had

been the work of a terrorist group.

Mr. Gerson said, "I know things that I won't

The White House spokesman, George Stephanopoulos, said President Bill Clinton had been called by the Justice Department about the arrest

Mr. Stephanopoulos declined to discuss what the suspect might be charged with, or whether the case related to international terrorism. "All I can say is, an arrest has been made," he

said. "I can't comment on it beyond to confirm

Investigators turned up fragments of a rental van reported stolen the day of the blast that could have carried the bomb, a source said. The charted pieces were scattered around the perimeter of the blast site, indicating that the van might have held the explosives, the source said. The van was rented from the Ryder company

agency in Jersey City, said the source, an executive of the rental firm who declined to be CNN reported that the FBI set up something akin to a "sting" to arrest the suspect.

According to the network, investigators

on Feb. 23, four days before the blast, at an

found part of a vehicle-identification number for a van found in the wreckage of the bombing. They traced the number to a van rented from a Ryder agency in Jersey City. All vehicles operated in the United States carry such a number, usually on the dashboard. Engine numbers also The suspect was said to have used his real

name when he phoned the Ryder agency to report the van as stolen after the bombing occurred. He was told that he had to report the theft to the police, which he did.

Two FBI agents posing as Ryder employees were at the agency Thursday when the suspect arrived to claim the \$400 cash deposit he had made to rent the van. After some dickering, the suspect was given his cash deposit and was arrested by a swarm of agents after he walked

off the rental agency property.

FBI agents told the Jersey City police that
the suspect was affiliated with the Salam Mosque in Jersey City, according to Brian Dorf, a spokesman for the Jersey City mayor. Brett Shundler.

Also known to have worshiped at that mosque were Sayyid Nosair, who was acquitted in 1991 of assassinating Rabbi Kahane in New York City but convicted of related crimes, and Sheikh Omar Abdel Rahman, who was questioned in the Kahane killing and faces possible

deportation to Egypt. The police later found literature in Mr. Nosair's apartment on bomb-making procedures and a list of names that included a member of Congress and two federal judges. Mr. Nosair. born in Egypt was New York City maintenance worker.

The sheikh has been living in self-imposed exile in the United States since he was acquitted

See ARREST, Page 4

MOSCOW - The Russian Army found itself on

Thursday caught in an escalating power struggle be-tween President Boris N. Yeltsin and the conservative parliament, which sought to summon the president to explain his relations with military commanders.
The Congress of People's Deputies voted to invite

Mr. Yeltsin to explain the unspecified "final option" he said that he might invoke if compromise fails to solve the current political crisis. Legislators also demanded minutes of a meeting that Mr. Yeltsin held with senior generals on Wednesday.

The usually pro-Yeltsin newspaper Izvestia reported that during that meeting the military brass urged Mr. Yeltsin to take "resolute measures" to end the

crisis. That prompted some of Mr. Yeltsin's opponents to charge that he was inducing the military to take storved to death, the military seems for the most part sides and possibly even preparing for army-backed

The parliament speaker, Ruslan I. Khasbulatov, who is seeking to strip Mr. Yeltsin of his power to appoint the cabinet and manage the government, suggested that Defense Minister Pavel S. Grachev should be fired. Reuters reported.

The head of Mr. Yeltsin's security council, Yuri Skokov, appeared in parliament on Thursday and denied that the president's apparatus was preparing a

General Grachev and other military leaders repeatedly have stressed that the army should stay out of politics. Reeling from the Soviet Union's breakup and

PARIS - The newspaper Libération

printed documents Thursday appearing to demonstrate that the French presidential pal-

ace tapped the telephone of a leading investi-gative journalist for Le Monde during a two-

month period in late 1985 and early 1986.

Edwy Plenel, the journalist, said in an

interview that there was no question that the 16 summaries of his conversations between

Dec. 30, 1985, and Feb. 26, 1986, were genu-

published relate conversations Mr. Plenel had with his editor at Le Monde, his girl-

friend and a number of business contacts or

side of President François Mitterrand's Ely-sée Palace. He had published several articles

in 1985 uncovering the fact that French secret

service agents blew up a boat in Auckland

harbor belonging to the environmental group Greenpeace. And he was investigating appar-

By Joseph Fitchett

a new conservative parliament

considered a foregone conclusion

in French elections this month, a

rare passionate spark has flared

in a squalid Paris suburb where

one of the Socialist Party's stars

may be unseated by a candidate making his first run for public

Two weeks ahead of the vote,

the duel between the two men has

become a tight race with national

consequence. Amid a monoto-

nous national campaign, the per-

sonal edge of the race in Sarcelles

affords a glimpse of a fuzzy, emo-

tional debate about the real con-

dition of France that colors the

thinking of all political parties.

The challenger is a newcomer,

but hardly a political neophyte: Pierre Lellouche, 42, has spent

five years as the top foreign-poli-

cy adviser to Jacques Chirac,

leader of the largest conservative

a writer and then as an éminence

plunge of challenging Dominique Strauss-Kahn, minister of indus-

try and foreign trade in the ruling

Socialist government and mem-ber of parliament for Sarcelles, a

If a conservative landslide en-

It is standard practice in

Although the Socialists' col-

But Mr. Lellouche gambled on

Sarcelles and the urban areas

at the Palace.

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traditionally leftist district.

party, Rally for the Republic. Dissatisfied with his success as

office.

SARCELLES, France - With

At the time, Mr. Plenel was a thorn in the

uninterested in playing politics.

But with Mr. Yeltsin and the parliament jockeying

over who should be supreme, both are nervous about the role the army might play. Mr. Yeltsin has warned conservatives not to "play the army card" by seeking to organize discontented officers. In his meeting with generals on Wednesday, Mr. Yeitsin sought to show conservatives that the army would stand by him if necessary, analysts here said.

A leading rightist legislator, Sergei Baburin, sought Thursday to neutralize that theater by demanding the minutes of Mr. Yeltsin's meeting with the generals. It was not clear whether Mr. Yeltsin would accept the invitation to speak to parliament or send his minutes.

Mr. Yeltsin's dispute with parliament is partly a matter of policy, with conservative legislators opposing his pro-Western foreign policy and pro-market economic changes. It is also a struggle between two branches of government operating under a Soviet-era constitution rife with contradictions.

Various solutions have been proposed to end the struggle, including a national referendum, early elec-tions for president and parliament or the convening of a constitutional assembly to write a new charter for Russia. But so far no faction has been strong enough to implement any of the variants.

On Thursday, parliament was unable even to agree when or whether to convene an emergency session of the Congress of People's Deputies, the supreme legis-

dential palace. Signatures on the documents correspond with the names of officials work-

ing there at the time. The unit was disbanded

in 1988 after it became clear that its members

had tried to plant incriminating evidence on

the case of the three arrested suspects, who were later released largely as a result of his

Mr. Plenel was working in early 1986 on

The head of the Elysée security unit, Chris-

tian Prouteau, was sentenced to 15 months in

prison for his role in the case. But he won a

reprieve on appeal and later emerged as head of security for last year's Winter Olympics in Albertville — a role for which Mr. Mitterrand

Liberation did not reveal the source for the

documents it published. Mr. Plenel said he

believed they were genuine because they in-cluded conversations with people that he had

met just once and personal discussions with

his girlfriend over a journalism prize he had

This urban crisis has become

Even the most run-down

Merchants are moving out and

Such foreign flavor fuels many

people's fears that every cluster

awarded him the Legion of Honor.

three suspected Irish terrorists.

WORLD BRIEFS

U.S. Envoy Warns of Aid Cut to Israel

TEL AVIV (Reuters) - The U.S. ambassador to Israel warned Thursday that Washington may have to cut its \$3 billion annual aid to the

William Harrop sharply criticized the pace of economic change in Israel, the biggest recipient of U.S. aid, and suggested that it was not prudent for one country to rely on another for 7 to 8 percent of its

"The commitment of the American government and people to Israel is not in question, now or in the future," Mr. Harrop said in a speech to businessmen. "But it may prove difficult to maintain our economic aid at its current high level." He cited the warnings of U.S. senators who said during visits to Israel last month that U.S. foreign aid was likely to be cut

China Warns U.S. on Trade Status

BELIING (AP) — China warned the United States on Thursday not to make an "unwise" decision by attaching conditions to the extension of the special trade status for Beijing. Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher said Sunday that the Clinton

Secretary of State warren M. Christopher said status that the United States were to renew Beijing's most-favored-nation trade status. The Foreign Ministry spokesman, Li Jianying, said: "To attach any conditions to the MFN status will damage the normal economic and trade relations between China and the U.S. and also the entire bilated relationship. Therefore, it is unwise and unacceptable to the Chinese

Germany Drops Hijacker Extradition

FRANKFURT (Reuters) — Germany will not ask the United States to extradite a young Ethiopian who hijacked a Lufthansa passenger jet and forced it to land in New York, Frankfurt prosecutors said Thursday.

A spokesman for the state prosecutor said that after talks with U.S. officials the United States had decided to deal with the case itself. Nebin Target 10 hijacked the Aribus A 220 which were had a case itself. Zewolde, 20, hijacked the Airbus A-310, which was bound for Cairo, after

it left Frankfurt airport with 104 people on board on Feb. 11. It was later discovered that he was armed only with a starting pistol loaded with blanks and had hijacked the jet for "personal reasons," possibly to join relations living in the United States after being refused permission to enter the country.

UN Chief Sees Somali Transfer May 1 🐠

UNITED NATIONS, New York (AP) - Secretary-General Butros Butros Ghali has proposed May I as the date to transfer command from the U.S.-led force in Somalia to a UN combat-ready force to deliver aid and disarm bandits.

In a written report to the Security Council, Mr. Butros Ghali proposed that a new UN force eventually numbering 28,000 troops would replace the U.S.-led force that originally comprised about 37,000 personnel from 23 countries, including about 17,000 U.S. troops. The new UN force would be the first major UN peace coforcement operation. It would continue to monitor a cease-fire and assist in delivering aid and in disarming gangs.

While saying that the command transfer would begin May 1, Mr. Butros Ghali emphasized that it would be phased in, and he did not say how long the transitional period would last. He said he hoped that many foreign soldiers currently under U.S. command would be transferred by their governments to the UN operation.

Major Moves to Reward Achievers

LONDON (Reuters) — Prime Minister John Major announced changes to Britain's centuries old honors system on Thursday, saying it would no longer reflect class distinctions and would reward achievement rather than long service. Honors will be open to a wider range of people and more emphasis will

be put on voluntary and community service, Mr. Major told Parliament. Senior British civil servants and diplomats will have to earn their knighthoods for the first time.

In the armed forces, bravery, not rank, would determine the award of medals, said Mr. Major, who intends to make Britain a classless society. He added, "I propose to end the recommendation of honors where they are given solely by seniority or on appointment."

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For the Record

A German lawyer found guilty of informing on the environmentalist Greens and other leftists in West Germany in the 1980s on behalf of East German secret police was given a suspended 21-month sentence Thursday. The lawyer, Klaus Croissant, 62, first made headlines in West Germany in the late 1970s by defending guerrillas of the leftist Red Army Faction and its forerunner, the Baader-Meinhoff gang. (Reviers)

The publisher of a Nigerian weekly newspaper was arrested Thursday by the security police after the publication criticized the makeup of a new government committee, journalists said. The arrest of Bukar Zarma, who also is editor in chief of the weekly, Abuja Newsday, followed the

Muslim extremists in Egypt shot and killed a police officer and his son as they drove to their home village in the troubled southern province of Asyut, the police said Thursday. The extremists have killed 12 police

Correction

Because of an editing error, Oscar Wilde, the Irish writer, was incorrectly identified in the European Topics column in Thursday's editions.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Chinese aviation officials pledged to enforce safety rules that have been gnored in the industry's rush to expand, the China Daily said Thursday. The paper quoted Jiang Zhuping, director-general of the Civil Aviation Administration of China, as saying that a series of air accidents last year badly undermined the reputation of Chinese airlines. At least 310 people died in five crashes, including all 141 people aboard a Boeing 737 that crashed into a hillside near the tourist city of Guilin in November and 106 people aboard a YAK-42 that crashed into a wall while taking off from

The Iranian Embassy in Britain amounced Thursday that it was increasing the price Britons will have to pay for a visa to Iran. According to the Iranian ambassador in London, the increase, from £14 to £504 (\$20) to \$725) corresponds to a similar increase that the British Embassy in Tehran imposed on visas to Britain. Both sides denied that the issue was linked to renewed tensions over a death sentence imposed by Iran on the British author Salman Rushdie.

Heavy snow crippled Romania and much of Bulgaria on Thursday, closing schools and disrupting road, rail, air and river links, although international air traffic to Bucharest was maintained. (Reuters)

French railroad ticket office workers called a 24-hour strike on Friday to protest a new computerized booking system, unions said Thursday in Paris. The strike was not expected to disrupt travel as the state rail company SNCF said passengers would be allowed to buy their tickets on the train without any fine until the end of the month. (Reuters)

French Reporter to Sue Over Phone Tap ent misdeeds by a special anti-terrorist unit established in the Elysée in 1982. By Roger Cohen New York Times Service

"Le Monde and I will now file suit over

these phone taps, which clearly constitute a crime," Mr. Plenel said. "The important

thing is to discover who ordered the taps. I

can only express my personal conviction that it is impossible that President François Mit-

terrand would have been unaware of them."

the Elysée Palace, declined any comment on

Muriel de Pierrebourg, a spokeswoman at

The affair, merely the latest in a series that

has come to characterize the Mitterrand era,

seemed certain to embarrass the president in the run-up to parliamentary elections later this month in which his Socialist Party is

widely expected to suffer a stinging defeat.

Telephone taps were rampant under de

Gaulle and his successor, Georges Pompidou. But the Socialists had wowed to curtail the

practice, and Mr. Mitterrand has often boast-

more free than under his 12-year rule,

In Gray Paris Suburb, Electoral Sparks

ed that the press in France has never been

The taps were apparently carried out by

Bosnia Serb Says Relief Effort Could Lead to a Wider War Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches Christopher, asked about Mr. Kar-WASHINGTON - The United

U.S. Disputes Critic

Of Airdrop Policies

States vowed Thursday to continue humanitarian airdrops into Bosnia and denied that its policies toward the former Yugoslavia could spark terrorism or wider war.

We just reject the notion that humanitarian relief has caused fighting in eastern Bosnia," said the White House press secretary. Dee

She was speaking after a grenade blast shattered windows at the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade and responding also to an open letter from the Bosnian Serbian leader, Radovan Karadzic, who said that "ill-advised American humanitarian cooperation could overnight transform a local conflict into a Balkan war, perhaps a world war."

The Karadzic letter also said that the United States might be the target of terrorist attacks and suggested that last Friday's bombing at the World Trade Center in New York was "fresh testimony to the extraordinary volatility and immediate dangers" of direct involvement in Bosnia

But Mr. Karadzic said at a new conference later: "Please neglect this sentence in the letter because it missed the point."

Ms. Myers, disputing Mr. Karadzic's contention about the U.S. relief mission in Bosnia, said the suffering in the former Yugoslav republic should not be laid "at the foot of the humanitarian relief effort but at those who are the ag-

gressors."
The State Department condemned the Karadzic letter as "irresponsible and disgraceful." Secretary of State Warren M.

SPECTATOR

adzic's comments and a grenade explosion at the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade, said: "We will not be deterred from doing what's necessary by terrorist attacks of any

In New York, the UN secretarygeneral, Butros Butros Ghali, protested when he and the peace mediators Cyrus R. Vance and Lord Owen held a "very tough meeting with Mr. Karadzic about the situa-

The Security Council asked Mr. Butros Ghali on Wednesday to send troops or observers into eastern Bosnia and demanded that killings and atrocities against civilians

As for the peace talks, Mr. Kar-adzic rejected UN control of heavy weapons in a future military disengagement agreement. Mr. Karadzic's comments on the pact, signed by Bosnia's Muslims on Wednesday on the understanding that there would be UN control of heavy artillery, indicated that even this section of the peace plan might

In fighting on Thursday, a French woman was killed when snipers ambushed an aid convoy organized by the French charity Equilibre as it entered Sarajevo, UN peacekeepers said. They said two Polish drivers were wounded in

UN officials also said they hoped to enter the settlement of Cerska within 24 hours to check Muslim claims that up to 1,500 sick and wounded needed to be evacuated from a Serbian offensive in

Intelligent

(Reuters, AP)

Witty



EXIT MINISTER — Health Minister Bernard Kouchner leaving the podium after being pelted with eggs and potatoes by. grain growers Thursday in the town of Luce, near Chartres.

France's major cities: decaying buildings and a deteriorating school system, rising racial tensions, unemployment, drug deal-

ing and violence. In contrast, the leading candidates - neither of whom lives in Sarcelles — are dashing examples of the Parisian intellectual elite. The Harvard-educated Mr. Lellouche, as a writer and journalist, including a column in Newsweek magazine, was a prominent

French hawk during the final de-cade of the Cold War. Mr. Stranss-Kahn, 43, had a meteoric academic career as an economist before becoming a Socialist Party official, then cabinet minister. He has acquired his own international reputation as a hard-charging advocate of French trade interests.

Both candidates have at their sides accomplished wives. Mrs. Strauss-Kahn --- better known by

her professional name, Anne Sinclair -- is a television journalist, host of the country's top political Marie-Laure Lellouche, a

painter, has abandoned her Left Bank studio to manage her husband's electoral bid. Their 18hour days have been directed at surmounting the incumbent's ini-

Trampeted in the 1950s as a brave new satellite city, Sarcelles saw its experimental vocation overwhelmed when housing had to be hastily constructed to accommodate waves of French refugees from Algeria after the revo-Sarcelles' difficulties are being exaggerated by conservatives. He

newcomers forged a politically liberal community that promptly subsided into a dormitory suburb of Paris. But this comfortable haven was transformed in the 1980s as the Sarcelles area was mundated by thousands of immigrants from Muslim North Africa, black ones in an act of national solidar-Africa and the French West

Today, half of the local popu-

of young men is an ethnic gang. Syringes in the stairwells of malodorous apartment buildings, a he is physically afraid to give bad

grades to some students: There is abundant evidence of economic tial advantage in name recogniand social collapse. At a senior citizens' club in the Sarcelles synagogue basement, a score of women complained about a rising rate of robbery. mainly by drug users, and declining police strength. Mr. Strauss-Kahn claims that

These relatively prosperous

lation comprises people from Third World countries. Nearly 60 percent of the housing is state-subsidized, low-cost dwellings.

But Mr. Lellouche insists that the first priority should be enough extra police to deter crime, and attacks Mr. Strauss-Kahn for failing to bring jobs to

insists that racial harmony has

fared better in this community

than in other cities, especially

American ones, afflicted by simi-

lar problems. He promises voters

that he will seek to make richer

towns pay more to help poorer

the district. Germany Begins Tightening Laws on Asylum

BONN — Germany began re- economic reasons. writing its asylum laws Thursday to end an open-door policy and try to curb far-right extremism. "Recognized asylum seekers are

not the problem in Germany," said Dieter Wiefelspütz, addressing par-liament for the Social Democrats. currently too massive immigration

Even the liberal opposition Social Democrats have agreed that Germany's constitutional guarantee of asylum to the politically op-pressed must be restricted. The government contends that almost continues to climb dramatically,"

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BERLIN: Grand Hotel Esplanade

parliament is expected to change the constitution and enact a package of asylum laws with the neces-

votes in late April.
Interior Minister Rudolf Seiters, claiming that 74,350 asylum seek-ers had entered Germany in the first two months of 1993 alone, said it was "high time" lawmakers did the preservation of the internal security of our country."

GENEVA: Confederation Center

"The number of asylum seekers

UTY 100 20

ple expect lawmakers to deal with this quickly." German politicians have long ar-

age of asylum laws with the neces-sary two-thirds majority when it votes in late April.

But April and the country have been triggered by the social and financial burdens of the refugees. Seventeen people were killed by rightist extremists in 1992.

Germany has said it will continue to offer refuge to war victims and those truly oppressed in their

people entering Germany from safe third countries could be immedi-

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all refugees are in Germany for economic reasons. Mr. Seiters told the Bundestag, the expelled once in the country. Such ple expect lawmakers to deal with countries would include members of the European Community, Austria, Switzerland, Poland and the Czech republic — all countries that border Germany.

The proposed laws would also list countries no longer considered politically repressive, such as Bulgaria and Romania. Refugees from such countries would be entitled to drastically shortened asylum hear-

Sweden Convicts Sanaggler

STOCKHOLM - A Swedish court jailed a Russian captain for 18 months on Thursday for smuggling 81 refugees into the country, reflecting Stockholm's (ougher policy aimed at stemming a refugee influx, Sergei Seisekov, who smuggled his seasick passengers on a stormy passage across the Baltic Sea in a small, rusting boat, was sentenced for endangering lives and for smuggling people.

A Suicide Ruling On Petra Kelly **And Her Lover**

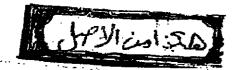
BONN — Investigators said Thursday they had closed the file on the death last year of the founder of Germany's Green Party, Petra Kelly, saying she and her lover ended their lives in a suicide

The decomposed bodies of Miss Kelly, 44, and her companion, Gert Bastian, 69, a former army general turned pacifist, were found in their Bonn home on Oct. 19. It became clear that Mr. Bastian had shot Miss Kelly, then himself, with a 38-caliber pistol, but whether the environmentalist was mandered or agreed to a suicide pact had re-

ined a mystery. But Bonn prosecutors said the circumstances pointed clearly to a death pact by the couple, apparent-ly for personal reasons. Both were enbers of parliament.

"Many witnesses who knew the former deputies said Petra Kelly as well as Gert Bastian had expressed thoughts of suicide in the past." a statement said





FIRST 100 DAYS / RESHAPING HEALTH GARE

Federal Workers May Get More Political Rights WASHINGTON — The House has voted to overhaul the Hatch

Act to allow federal employees to engage in partisan politics outside

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are Achieres

Control of the Contro

the office on their own time.

Democrats and moderate Republicans supporting the changes in the act, which was adopted in 1939, contended that 3.2 million federal workers were being denied their constitutional rights. The opponents, largely conservatives, argued that Congress must protect the appartisan image of the civil service bureaucracy.

The measure would permit federal employees to run for local office, though not for federal or state office, without taking a leave of absence. It would also allow government employees, excluding those working for the Federal Election Commission, to manage political campaigns and raise money for candidates.

campaigns and raise money for candidates.

Similar bills were passed twice during the Bush administration, only to be vetoed by President George Bush. This time, the Senate is likely to give swift approval, and President Bill Clinton has promised

The Hatch Act currently prevents federal employees from running for political office, soliciting campaign funds or playing a leading table in a political campaign. But employees are allowed to make political contributions, vote and express opinions.

(NYT)

Republican is Candidate for 'Drug Czar' Post

WASHINGTON — A former New Jersey governor, Thomas H. Kean, is a contender for the "drug czar" position, one that is charged with directing the government's war on drugs. President Clinton plans to elevate it to cabinet rank.

Appointing Mr. Kean, a Republican who is now president of Drew University in Madison, New Jersey, would fulfill Mr. Chinton's desire to include all sorts — even Republicans — in his cabinet. There aren't any so far.

Congress Backs Clinton on Jobiess Benefits

WASHINGTON - Following the Senate's lead, the House approved a \$5.7 billion measure that would extend unemployment benefits for an estimated 2 million workers, handing President Clinton a victory in the first test of his economic plan.

The House vote on Thursday was 247 to 156. In the Senate, the preceding day, Democrats and a handful of Republicans banded

some Republicans and a nanorul of Republicans benocut together to approve the bill, 66 to 33.

Some Republican senators argued that passage of the jobless benefits would swell the U.S. deficit by billions of dollars. But they failed in a 57-to-43 party-line vote to gain approval of an amendment that would have required a reduction in government spending to pay for the expanded benefits.

(LAT)

Latinos Ask Cilnton for 'Fair Share' of Jobs

WASHINGTON — Frustrated Latino leaders are stepping up pressure on President Clinton to put more Hispanics in top administration posts.

The heads of several national Latino organizations acknowledge

that few jobs of any kind have been filled in the slow-moving appointment process. Yet they are concerned, and in some cases angry, about the small number of Hispanics on short lists of potential nominees for more than 1,000 senior administration jobs. "The Latino community has not had its fair share" of appointments, said Lydia Camarillo of the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund. "We are not talking about quotas. We are talking about the president keeping a commitment." (LAT)

Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen, on whether the president's health care proposal should be attached to his economic program: "I'm not about to tell the leadership of the Senate or the House how to package this thing. We're going to keep our options open." (NYT)

Away From Politics

 Laying the groundwork for the prosecution's contention that four police officers intentionally best Rodney G. King in violation of his civil rights, an expert on police procedures testified that the beating was a "clear violation" of Los Angeles Police Department policy. The expert, Sergeant Mark J. Conta of the department, hammered away at the officers' conduct in the beating, which was captured on amateur videotape two years ago Wednesday. He condemned what he described as a savage attack on a defenseless, beaten man.

 An independent Quebec would probably contribute to the North American air defense system now maintained by the United States and Canada, according to Jacques Parizeau, Quebec separatist leader. Quebec's airspace accounts for a sizeable part of the Arctic region, so the United States and Canada could not leave Quebec skies defenselesss, Mr. Parizeau and Canada could not leave Quebec skies defenselesss. Hopkins University's Washington Center.

 Witnesses to one of Dr. Jack Kerorkian's 15 assisted suicides may risk jail if they fail to tell the authorities what they saw, according to the Macomb County prosecutor, Carl Marlinga, who is considering ordering a coroner's inquest into the death of one of Dr. Kevorkian's

 Flooding has forced an iceberg-lettuce farming district in the desert east of Yuma, Arizona, to shut its main pumping plant, cutting off irrigation and household water supplies to hundreds of people along the Gila River. Ninety miles of the Gila are flooded from Painted Rock Dam near Phoenix to the Colorado River at Yuma because heavy rainfall through the Southwest this winter.

 A direct-mail entrepreneus pleaded guilty in a \$14 million scheme in which he defrauded thousands of people who paid to be listed in Who's Who in American Executives and other so-called vanity books. The entrepreneur, Steven S. Watstein, used the name Steven West. He ram a company based in Great Neck, New York, that hared prospects — many of them mid-level executives or owners of small businesses — by falsely informing them they had been confidentially chosen for inclusion in one of the books by a selection committee that included famous names. The scheme took place from July 1988

• The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will re-evaluate the threat that truck bombs pose to nuclear reactors in light of the World Trade Center bombing and an incident earlier this year in which a man crashed his station wagon through the fence at the Three Mile Island piant in Pennsylvania.

• A white supremacist who is awaking a third trial in the 1963 slaying of the civil rights activist Medgar Evers has been hospitalized in Jackson, Mississippi, for an undisclosed ailment. Byron De La Reckwith, 72, was taken to the Veterans Administration Medical Center, the hospital confirmed.

 A 16-year-old boy who cut off his hand while working with a circular saw is suing his parents for \$2 million, claiming they violated circular saw is sping his parents for \$2 minon, canning they violated child-labor laws by letting him use the tool. The lawsuit by David Chinkinbeard, filed in Newport News, Virginia, noted that Virginia's child-labor law states no child under 18 shall be "permitted or suffered to work or operate "any circular saw, band saw or guillotine shear." The boy's hand was reattached.

White House to Medical Lobby: Don't Get Too Close

for a higger voice in remodeling the nation's health-care system, saying it is keeping all special interest

Sockring a Voice

groups at arms length.

The association's executive vice president, Dr.

James S. Todd, in a letter this week to the administration's chief health-care adviser, Ira Magaziner, asked for more direct involvement in the administration's

Changes "will fail without the support of the profession," Dr. Todd wrote.

"Bring us into the process and we can help make it

In return, officials of the doctors' lobby said, they

The White House press secretary, Dee Dee Myers, responded Thursday that "it would be a conflict of to be sweeping changes in medicine. interest, we believe, to have representatives of various In a letter to Mr. Magaziner, Mrs. Clinton's right-

The Associated Press

Ms. Myers added that the White House was encouraged by the association's "willingness to look seriously rejected the American Medical Association's request at some of the president's proposals and to work with the future.

In the Associated Press

Ms. Myers added that the White House was encouraged by the association's "willingness to look seriously agreed by the association of the president supposed and to work with the future.

■ Seeking a Voice

Philip J. Hilts of The New New York Times reported

Fearful of being left out of the debate on reshaping the health-care, the American Medical Association as told the White House that it would drop its long-

In return, officials of the doctors' lobby said, they are asking for a seat at the table as the policy group led by Hillary Rodham Clinton works out what promise

interest groups" as official members of the task force working groups.

She said that the medical association already had a "significant voice" on health reforms, and has met several times with administrations officials.

hand man on health care, the group signaled its willingness to support the idea of "spending limits" on health care, to accept a National Health Board to review prices and practices in medicine and to accept that large "managed care" organizations like pre-

The association put caveats on some of these items, and repeated its opposition to other items under discussion by the White House, like the proposal for a "global budget" that would set a strict limit on the amount the nation spends on health care.

But it did offer to support a cap plan, probably less restrictive than the global-budget approach, under which doctors would accept national or regional health-care spending limits if they can help set them.

A medical association spokesman said it is a "reasonable reading of the proposal" to say that the overall spending limits would be at the level of inflation in the rest of the economy. Last year, that was 2.9 percent, while inflation for doctors' fees and other medical costs was 6.6 percent.

In the past, the lobby and its allied doctors have been credited with killing health-insurance proposals in the administration of Franklin D. Roosevelt, dethat large "managed care" organizations like pre- feating President Harry S. Truman's national health president's liking next year.

program and halting President Jimmy Carter's hospital cost-containment measures.

But in the new climate in Washington, according to various American Medical Association officials, the group worried that it was being left behind as Demo-crats on Capitol Hill, other medical organizations and such health-industry stalwarts as the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association have embraced "managed competition" and some limits on price increases.

Meanwhile, Representative Dan Rostenkowski, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, said that Congress was unlikely to pass a comprehensive health-care bill this year, despite strong urging by President Clinton and the Senate majority leader.

Mr. Rostenkowski, whose panel has written a large portion of the nation's tax and health laws, said Wednesday that Mr. Clinton's health legislation would probably be too big and too complex to combine with the president's economic package.

But he and other lawmakers expressed confidence that Congress would pass a health-care bill to the

Snapping at the Hand That Fed Clinton Well

Loophole He Assailed Gave Candidate A Big 4-Month Lead in Contributions

By Michael Wines

New York Times Service WASHINGTON — As presidential candidate, Bill Clinton, who pledged to tame "big money interests" by putting an end to un-limited, unregulated campaign do-nations, was biting a hand that generously fed him, a new analysis of campaign spending concludes.

The analysis, by the lobbying group Common Cause, says the Democratic National Committee amassed \$20.1 million in unregu-

Virtually all was collected and spent on behalf of Mr. Clinton's revirtually all came from big unions, corporations and wealthy individuals who could not have given such big donations directly to Mr. Clinton without violating federal cam-

Current federal law bars companies and unions from giving any money to federal candidates and tion committee to \$5,000 an elec- \$200,000 to the Democrats.

ties, ostensibly for get-out-the-vote drives and other party efforts. In nate soft money to "buy access to practice, presidential campaigns Congress and the White House."

The president of Common how much of it is spent.

based on reports to the Federal the Republican National Commit-second term in 1996.

tee in collecting soft cash. The Republicans gathered about \$12.8 million in the same four months for President George Bush's re-election campaign, federal reports

In the two-year election cycle from January 1991 to December 1992, however, the Republican National Committee out-collected the Democrats, taking in \$32.4 million in soft cash to the opposition's \$29.9 million.

amassed \$20.1 million in unregu-lated "soft" money donations in the last four months of 1992.

Virtually all was collected and

During that time, 72 big donors each gave more than \$100,000 to the Democrats. They included big unions (the United Steelworkers of spent on behalf of Mr. Clinton's re-election, Common Cause said. And virtually all came from big unions, (the Atlantic Richfield Co., the oil giant, gave \$171,573), and individ-uals like Alida Rockefeller Messinger, a Minneapolis member of the Rockefeller clan and former wife of a department store heir, who gave \$300,000.

Computer software executives, money to federal candidates and an insurance executive and a com-limits individual donations to modities broker were among six \$1,000 an election and political ac-other big donors who each gave

Mr. Clinton repeatedly cam-Soft money donations sidestep paigned on a promise to curb the those limits by going not to the political action committees, incandidates, but to the national perdustry lobbies and cliques of dustry lobbies and cliques of

Election Commission, showed that y would favor him, as an incumpoll at the end of April. the Democrats had far outpaced bent, should he decide to seek a



PIPE DOWN! —Supporters of Prime Minister Brian Mulroney of Canada trying to shout down a heckler, center, during a speech by Mr. Mukroney at a Progressive Conservative Party fund-raiser in Toronto. Several protesters beckled Mr. Mukroney over the North American Free Trade Agreement, the accord eliminating trade barriers between the United States, Mexico and Canada.

5,640 Enter IHT Competition on Clinton's First 100 Days

PARIS - More than 5,600 readers respond-The Common Cause analysis, based on reports to the Federal change a political system that clear
The Common Cause analysis, based on reports to the Federal change a political system that clear
Takes—More than 3,000 readers responded to the International Herald Tribune competition asking them to predict President Bill common change a political system that clear
The president of Common ed to the International Herald Tribune competition asking them to predict President Bill common change a political system that clear
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The president of Common ed to the International Herald Tribune competition asking them to predict President Bill common change and the pred

The winner will receive a round-trip Paris-

corde, or an equivalent travel credit. Runners-up will receive first class and business class trips

Herald Tribune World Stock Index on April 30,
the 100th day, of the presidency, and on the or their equivalent.

countries, almost half predicted that Mr. Clin- closing rates in New York. ton would have an approval rating of just over

New York flight aboard an Air France Con- guess also at the level of the International U.S. dollar in yen, 130.3.

of the 5,640 readers who replied from 90 with the dollar-Deutsche mark and dollar-yen

The average of all answers for the tie-break s: Trib Index, 90.6: Dow Jone In the event of a tie, readers were asked to 3304.4; U.S. dollar in Deutsche marks, 1.7;

'Messiah' in Texas Releases Another Child, but Not His Own

ah and more than 100 of his followers, won release Thursday of anoth- Jeffrey Jamar, said. er child from the cult amid fears that some sect members may com-

A spokeswoman for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms said a boy was released from the sect's fortress on the rolling rangeland near Waco, the 20th child to be freed since the siege began fol-lowing a Sunday shoot-out.

Mr. Koresh is deciding which children are released, the agent said. Eighteen children and 90 later told the FBI he was awaiting

Otherwise there was little move-

become focused on bringing out are surrounding the Texas farm.

more children, an FBI spokesman, The Houston Chronicle reporte The Houston Chronicle reported

Jeffrey Jamar, said.

"It's not a bargaining. It's not a bartering at all," he said. "It's a matter of they agree together that the children should come out."

Mr. Kornels is deciding which

adults are believed to be still inside further instructions from God before deciding what to do.

Mr. Koresh has said he was al agents stormed the compound said.

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatcher

Negotiations by telephone with MACO, Texas — Federal agents, promising not to use force to capture a self-proclaimed messi
Negotiations by telephone with ment on either side in the standoff, wounded in the gunfight and trying to arrest Mr. Koresh on a weapons charge. Four of the agents are surrounding the Texas farm.

Negotiations by telephone with ment on either side in the standoff, wounded in the gunfight and weapons charge. Four of the agents are surrounding the Texas farm.

He said it was worrisome that weapons charge. Four of the agents are many as 15 wives — had so far wounded. One Davidism died later to capture a self-proclaimed messi-

The former rock musician took over the sect in 1987 after a violent hattle with its former leader. The Branch Davidians split from the Seventh-day Adventists in 1933. They believe in the imminent end of the world.

The shoot-out began when feder-

health on Thursday, Mr. Agresh's on Sunday trying to fight his way said, "He seems to have recovered out, and Mr. Koresh said a 2-yearold child was killed in the firefight.

> member, said in an interview published in the Waco Tribune-Herald that cult members had discussed ways to commit suicide, adding that individuals did not count.

perhaps because he wants them to die with him.

Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bent-

sen, whose department controls the Marc Breault, a former cult Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, said Wednesday that agents had been concerned from the start about "a Jonestown possibility" — a reference to the 1978 mass suicide of more than 900 fol-

"We're just food for the fire," he lowers of Jim Jones at the Peoples'

Temple in Guyana. (Reuters, AP)

Short on Hard Cash, China Is Selling Americans a Lot of Guns documents supplied by the Treasury's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco Customs Service sources added.

By John Pomfret Washington Post Service
WASHINGTON — The Chi-

from 1989 through 1991 and set up or bought a number of companies here in an effort to earn hard currency and obtain American technology for military use, according to U.S. officials and documents. Acting aggressively on a 1987 White House decision to allow Chi-

washing ion — The move into the Omica States 2 million gurs to the United States is indicative of the growing power and confidence of the Chinese milli-

ing to statistics obtained from the Treasury's arms bureau through a Freedom of Information Act request, 1.92 million Chinese arms

"Chinese guns are flooding the market," said a high-ranking official of the Treasury's arms bureau.

"They're the K-Mart of weapons and thousands of tons of ammunition were brought into the United nese arms imports, Beijing's army already has become the largest for-States. While complete 1992 statiseign supplier of small arms to the tics on imported Chinese weapons American market, according to are not yet available, they appear to

One of the Chinese-made guns, an AK-47 semiantomatic manufactured by a huge defense firm, China North Industries, or Norinco, was used by a gunman to kill two peo-ple and wound three others in front

Between 1989 and 1991, accord-of CIA headquarters on Jan. 25. manufacturers."

car jacks, barbells, silk jackets and negligees into the United States from factories in China. Additional ministration in 1989. tempt to buy a similar but larger the U.S. market was seen as fair firm was stopped by the Bush adreciprocity.

After the 1989 crackdown on companies are seeking to buy American businesses, especially those specializing in high technol-

firms into the United States -

Other businesses of the People's National Aero-Technology Im- At the time, American firms Liberation Army, as the armed port-Export Corp., established a were selling China weapons and forces collectively are known, im-port pig iron, basketballs, bicycles, company near Seattle after its at-the Chinese demand for access to

The move by Chinese military pro-democracy demonstrators in most into the United States — China, the Bush administration which started in the mid-1980s - stopped U.S. weapons sales to Chihas occurred with little or no public na, although it continued to allow In a move that has concerned debate in this country. The White Some U.S. military officials, one House began allowing China to sell their weapons in the firm linked to the military, China weapons here in 1987.

Terrorists Turn Tables on Drug Lord

By James Brooke

New York Times Service BOGOTA — Pablo Escobar Gaviria, a veteran practitioner of terrorism, is suddenly squirming as a target of terrorism. In a modern gang war complete with faxed communiques and clandestine news conferences, a powerful faction of the Medellin

cocaine ning has turned on its godfather and vowed his destruction. "May Pablo Escobar disappear from the face of the earth," a hooded member of Colombia Libre recently told Semana, a news weekly here. Free Colombia is the civilian wing of a paramilitary Medellin terrorist group known as Pepes, the Spanish acronym for People Persecuted by Pablo Escobar.

Free of scruples about using terror and armed with inside information acquired during years of service for Mr. Escobar, these groups appear to be turning the tables in the scrup-march manhant for the matter. seven-mouth manhant for the nation's most-

"The Pepes can do what the security forces can't do — blow up someone's house, kidnap people and kill them," Defense Minister Rafael Pardo said. "They are waging a dirty

Having lost his monopoly on terrorism, the billionaire trafficker sounds more and more

like a hunted man. In faxed answers on Tuesday to questions submitted by The New York Times through his lawyers, Mr. Escober whittled a long list of surrender conditions down to one — U.S. residency visas for his family.

Wednesday, the U.S. Embassy here rejected that option, issuing a statement that his "offer to exchange protection for his family for his surrender is unacceptable.".

The Colombian prosecutor, Gustavo de Greiff, told a radio station Wednesday that his office would consider giving protection to Escobar family members if they made a reLeft largely on his own, Mr. Escobar is discovering that former friends can be the

"Some of the Pepes were close to him," a law enforcement official here said. "Now they are very dangerous to him."

In one month, the Pepes have killed more than 20 Escobar loyalists and carried out 11 dynamite attacks, causing damage of about \$8 million to properties owned by the Escobar family.

Operating in the Medellin area, Pepes squads have burned ranches and chalets of family members, exploded car bombs outside their apartments, and burned the trafficker's prized collection of antique cars, including a 1933 Pontiac supposedly owned by Al Ca-

"We want to make Pablo Escobar feel the effects in his own flesh of his brand of terrorism," the group said in its inaugural commu-

DEATH NOTICE

It is with deep regret that the Canadian Embassy announces the death, on March 3rd 1993, of Claude Talbot CHARLAND

Ambassador of Canada to France. A condolence book will be opened

at the Canadian Embassy,

35, avenue Montaigne, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. March 5, 8 and 9. A memorial service will be held on March 9, at 6:00 p.m., in the Church of Saint-Severin.

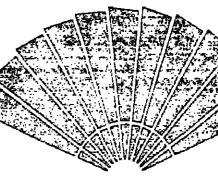
I, rue des Prêtres-Saint-Séverin.

Paris 5th. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: L'Arche, c/o Mr. Jean Vanier, P.O. Box 35, 60350 Trosly-Brenil or to the Canadian Cancer Society, 200 Melrose Avenue, Ottawa,

Ontario KIY 4K7.

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As the News Broke, an 'Odd Duo' Kept the Press at Bay

WASHINGTON — They made an odd duo — a Bush administration holdover acting as attorney general and an FBI director whose job is in jeopardy - holding forth Thursday before reporters eager for details of a break in the World

Trade Center bombing.
Acting Attorney General Stuart
Gerson and FBI Director William S. Sessions had scheduled the press conference at FBI headquarters the day before to announce a nationwide white-collar crime program that turned out to be a crackdown

on telemarketers. But the FBI auditorium was standing-room-only for another reason entirely: The White House spokesman, George Stephanopolous, had confirmed that an arrest had been made in last Friday's bombing of New York's World Trade Center that killed five people and injured more than 1,000.

Mr. Stephanopolous told reporters at the White House that Mr. say that we're interested in more would wait until a Clinton adminis-

Gerson would "be prepared to take than the single individual who has questions on this" at a press conferbended." But he would

Not exactly. The acting attorney general through a detailed description of

obviously is a big news day," Mr. rest? What agencies were involved?" of reporters to be patient on what

arrest had been made. And he and Mr. Sessions de-

not confirm that the authorities were planning to arrest others.

For more than 30 minutes, Mr. warned the impatient crowd from Gerson and Mr. Sessions delivered the start that it would have to wait variations of "no comment," some more elegant than others.

through a detailed description or the telemarketing fraud and arrests before it got to hear what it came for.

"There's something at least semianomalous about telling a bunch of manager to be retient on what the arrest to be retient on what the arrest of the section." "Who made the arrest of the section o

Question: "Who made the ar-

Then, after the telemarketing Mr. Gerson: "I would not dispresentation, he announced what everybody already knew, that an to either the arrest of the person nor the identification of the per-

clined to say much more.

There was no hint of Mr. Seswith dozens of TV cameras sions problems with a critical reready to go live, they claimed that port by the Justice Department's to say more could "imperil that Office of Professional Responsibility that accused him of ethical mis-Mr. Gerson said, "Suffice it to cues. The White House has said it

tration attorney general is con-firmed before deciding whether to let Mr. Sessions complete his 10-withdrew amid an uproar over her year term.

illegal hiring of undocumented Mr. Gerson did refer to some aliens and her failure to pay Social ment or the FBI is in disarray or criticism he has faced as a Bush Security taxes for them. Mr. Clinadministration holdover, still in the ton's second nominee, Janet Reno, done," Mr. Gerson said.

"I see enough familiar faces here that have suggested things to me about whether the Justice Depart-

ARREST: Muslim Held as FBI Seeks Accomplices

(Continued from page 1) in Egypt a decade ago on charges he sanctioned the 1981 assassina-

tion of President Sadat. The 54-year-old blind cleric commands a following in Egypt that analysts compare to that of the er Thursday the head of the FBI's late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini New York office, James Fox, said it in Iran. His message includes calls

the way of Islam. Late Thursday, government sources said that when the police tried to search the apartment of Mr. Nosair, his cousin obstructed them and was arrested. The sources

The rapidity of the arrest of the the crime. suspect at the truck-rental agency - within six days of the bombing -came as a surprise, because earli-New York office, James Fox, said it would take a long time to find the well be traced to one of the most would take a long time to find the

to eradicate anyone who stands in culprits.

"Bombing investigations in the past, where we didn't have a real breakthrough, have taken years,"

Mr. Gerson and Mr. Sessions

from now," he said.

aspect of our investigation."

been widespread rape.

UN Panel on War Crimes

In Yugoslavia Omits Women

The Associated Press

the former Yugoslavia said Thursday they regretted that women had been omitted from the five-member panel, especially because of the

difficulty of investigating allegations of mass rape.

"I consider it a defect of the commission that there is no woman on it," said Frits Kalshoven, chairman of the panel appointed in October by the UN secretary-general, Butros Butros Ghali.

He added that he would like to add a woman to the panel, known

as the Commission of Experts.

Mr. Kalshoven told reporters that the panel was making allega-

tions of systematic rape one of six major areas of its investigations on which it aimed to have "verified information" by the end of July.

"We will have a fair amount of conclusions about four months

William J. Fenrick, a Canadian military lawyer on the panel, said

the commission was trying to include women experts where possible in its investigations, especially because of the special problems of the

He said the allegations of systematic rape of thousands of women, mostly Muslim victims of Serbian forces, were "the most difficult

Mr. Kaishoven said he regarded as "very important" the report of a team for four women doctors who told the UN Human Rights

Commission that their January investigation concluded there had

GENEVA — United Nations-appointed experts on war crimes in

named the man as Ibrahim Ga- and arraignment would continue normally, despite the notoriety of

> "What we are most concerned about is a thorough, complete in-vestigation," Mr. Gerson said. If the initial news accounts prove

dangerous underground terrorist groups in the world — the Muslim Brotherhood. This group has operated primarily in Egypt but also has followers in the New York City area.

(AP, Reuters)



Mr. Sessions, the FBI director, meeting the press on Thursday. 🏚

Mubarak Defends Fight Against Islamic Terror

By Caryle Murphy

Washington Post Service CAIRO -- President Hosni Muberak defended on Thursday what he called his government's "heavy hand" against Islamic extremists who use violence, and expressed confidence that their activities, while not about to disappear, had

reached a peak in Egypt.

Mr. Mubarak's discussion of his country's battle with Islamic ex-tremists occurred hours before U.S. law enforcement officials announced the arrest of a suspect in the World Trade Center bombing who they allege is linked to an Is-lamic extremist group that has ties

to a group in Egypt.

When the Egyptian leader was contention that religious extremism was a global phenomenon.

"This proves that terrorism is becoming a plague spreading all over the world," Mr. Mubarak said, "and it would call for international cooperation to resist this unhealthy

concentrating in the Middle East.

But now we believe this shows that

d'affaires, Sadi Calislar, said before it's not a local phenomenon. It's

spreading." signa Egyptian officials clearly had no Iraq.

idea that there might be a connec-tion between the New York bombing and local groups. One official even had joked Thursday morning that "our people are not that effi-

cient."
Mr. Mubarak's comments, in an interview, offered the most authori-tative description so far of the goveernment's strategy for dealing with the growing appeal of so-called po-litical Islam and with a recent deadly wave of violence by Islamic

Over the past 10 months, such violence has left scores of Egyptian civilians and police dead, and, for the first time, has seen Islamic extremists target foreign tourists, When the Egyptian leader was informed of the suspect's arrest, he said that it illustrated his earlier ment by striking at its leading SOURCE OF TEVERIDE.

Turkey Is Reopening Embassy in Baghdad

departure that his mission did not signal a change in policy toward

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Same Hall horaling

AIRDROP: Accurate Delivery Proves Too Risky, Limiting U.S. Efforts

(Continued from page 1) intended to change the military equation in the Balkans.

In announcing the plan, the White House was careful to couch the operation in humanitarian terms, cautioning that it did not necessarily portend deeper U.S. military involvement. Although clearly intended to prevent the Serbs from starving the Muslims, the administration also underscored that aid would be dropped to Serbs and Croatians, too, to demonstrate Washington's even-

Despite those assertions, however, the mission clearly represented a deepening of the American commitment to protect the Bosnians from the Serbian siege. But in step-ping up their attacks in eastern Bosnia, the Serbs are raising the

If the airdrops were intended to impress the Serbs, they appear to have fallen short. In a defiant Open Letter to the American Peo-

the violence," said Predrag Simic,

ternational Politics and Economics

It may or may not be true, as Mr.

up arms in 1991 and 1992, that

Milosevic did indeed dream of a

set off the violence.

the director of the Institute of In- that even the Serbian leader must

bia" was not the main reason why
Serbs in Croatia and Bosnia took
ernment, and the Bosnian Muslims

instead it was the insecurity and dent and unitary state." He called

Milovan Dillas, believes that Mr. and provide troops to enforce it.

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fears of Serbs in those places after this totally unrealistic.

realistic possibility.

er of the Bosnian Serbs, Radovan Karadzic, warned that the "ill-advised American humanitarian cooperation could overnight transform a local conflict in a Balkan the Serbian attacks in eastern Bossought to carry out the operation with the smallest possible risk to U.S. fliers, by dropping the supplies from heights of more than that the airdrops would show the

war, perhaps a world war." After criticizing the airdrops, Mr. Karadzic sounded an ominous note, warning that the United States might face terrorist attacks. "The tragic and deplorable terrorist incident at the World Trade Center is fresh testimony to the extraordinary volatility and immediate dangers of direct involvement," he wrote in the letter. He retracted that sentence Thursday.

The purpose of the airdrops was to indicate to the Serbs that we would not let them win by using starvation as a means," said Zalmay Khalilzad, who directed the Pentagon office of policy planning in the Bush administration. "If our purpose is to prevent a Serb victory or encourage reasonable negotiation, this instrument of dropping food from 10,000 feet is not work-

"The Serbs bear the largest share

Simic and other moderate Serbian of responsibility for what has hap-eastern Bosnia where battles were

intellectuals and politicians insist, pened to Yugoslavia," Mr. Djilas raging last week, he and others bethat the dream of a "Greater Sersaid. "But the Croats also have an lieve, tens of thousands of peace-

wanted dominance in an indepen-

that the airdrops would show the Serbs the futility of trying to stop the relief effort by blocking ground convoys to towns in eastern Bosnia. But American officials said they had not seen a greater Serbian willingness to allow the convovs. On the contrary, some American analysts have concluded the Serbs are preparing to expand their siege by moving into likely airdrop zones.

The administration and its allies tried to deal with the setback by starting a diplomatic effort at the United Nations to condemn the assault in which Serbian nationalists took Cerska, a Muslim town that was the target of the first air-But at the Pentagon, the domi-nant byword continued to be cau-

tion, reflecting the military's wor-ties about being drawn into the Balkan conflict. From the start of Mr. Khalilzad was referring to the airdrop the Pentagon has

janovic, leader of the opposition

In Serbian enclaves like Krajina,

in eastern Croatia, and those in

lieve, tens of thousands of peace-

keepers will be needed to keep the

belligerents separated after a cease-

"We have to find a new way of

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SERBS: Moderates in Belgrade Welcome U.S. Efforts to Open the Road to Peace

now realize that this is no longer a Serbian Democratic Party.

The best chance of success for a keep the lighting from spreading to cease-fire, he and others here be-

"The only solution is a UN man- living here in the Balkans," said

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General Colin L. Powell, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, continues to favor a short operation, Pentagon officials said. Reflecting the Pentagon caution, Defense Secretary Les Aspin proclaimed the mission a success on Tuesday and added that the Defense Department was considering a pause to reassess the operation before deciding if further drops

Mr. Aspin's hedged statement produced an outcry that led President Clinton to underscore Wednesday that the relief effort was going forward. "We're continuing the airlift plan," Mr. Clinton said. "This

But if Mr. Clinton had a plan for contending with the new surge in

Some think it could take as many to believe that they have more to volvement in the Balkans.

tionally look to Russia for support

e. The Serbs tradi-

as a half-million peacekeepers to hope for on the battlefield than at

phase of it is going forward just as

Uzbek Chief Vows:

must also build the new situation in the future, but we need a more positive influence from outside than we have seen up to now."

The main problems with the suggested Serb approach are that the trail Asian state.

TASHKENT, Uzberistan — President Islam A. Karimov vowed Thursday to stop Islamic fundamentalism taking root in his Central Asian state.

If the United States and Russia Russians have enough problems of In a rare interview with a group quickly agree on a cease-fire plan in their own without the Balkans to of foreign correspondents, Mr. quickly agree on a cease-fire plan in
Bosnia, and provide troops to support it, in this view, then neither own without the banacies of toreign correspondents, inches worry about, and neither European Karimov said fundamentalism lay not U.S. public opinion is likely to at the heart of instability in neighboring Tajikistan, where Islamic polyment in the Ralkans. forces are fighting a bloody rear-But it is as clear to Serb moder-guard battle against former Communists who won back control late

grade see it, expect protection from the United States.

ceptable to the world community, ens Uzbekistan," he said, vowing to take steps to ensure it did not take

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on Muslim culture. "We in Yugo-slavia destroyed Yugoslavia. We States and Russia agreed on an

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bia achieved by "ethnic cleansing" Another intellectual, the cele- lieve will come if the United States ing Albania, Bulgaria, Turkey and and the Muslims, as people in Bel- and other violent means is unactrated former dissident communist and Russia agree on the solution. Greece into a wider war.

last year.

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ANKARA — A senior diplomat He added: "For a certain period of time, it was thought that it's left for Baghdad on Thursday to

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That Election Fiasco? South Korea's Ross Perot Tells All

By James Sterngold New York Times Service

TOKYO — The extraordinary yearlong political odyssey of Chung Ju Yung an industrialist whose run for the South Korean presidency shook the governing party but ended in failure and an indictment for election law violations, has concluded with a strange whimper here.

In a remarkable interview, this imperious billionaire not only promised to quit politics for good, but denied he had really believed the bitter accusations of corruption he had leveled against the party and its candidate, President Kim Young Sam. He added that, confrary to months of declarations that the wanted to save South Korea from its dishonest politicians, he had actually run as a way of fight-ing a huge tax bill handed to his conglomerate, the Hyundai group. I criticized Kim Young Sam be-cause he was my rival and I had to win the election," said Mr. Chung. who is 77. "However, the election is over, and the situation is different. I have to do what I'm supposed to

do. I have to go back to my place in the business world." Mr. Chung, who was often compared to another billionaire popu-list, Ross Perot, was clearly hum-

BELJING — Prime Minister Li

Peng said Thursday that China and

Britain should resume talks on

Hong Kong, but resterated Beijing's demand that London first

abandon its plan to increase the

number of elected representatives.

Mr. Li, meeting with a delega-tion from Hong Kong's General Chamber of Commerce, said coop-

eration between China and Britain

should be strengthened to ensure a

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bled by his political drubbing and legal problems — his brother has already been handed a suspended sentence for election financing violations. He vowed that now he would return to Hyundai, which makes everything from semiconductors to automobiles, and break it into more than 50 smaller companies, which would remain linked by cross-shareholdings like a Japanese

at a luxury restaurant here, seemed to confirm claims by his former be do this?" political associates in Scoul that

Mr. Chang was abandoning his emerged as a surprisingly potent quixotic effort in a desperate effort new third party, the United Peo-

save his own life. But he has hurt so
many innocent people. How could
dictment had already been

to persuade the new government to ple's Party has collapsed. Mr. drop the charges against him and Chung left the party. Mr. Kim said. some 50 other Hyundai executives with massive debts and was even

who had helped his party.

Kim Dong Gil, the chairman of in a Hyundai building in downthe United People's Party, which town Scoul. Mr. Chung has resigned from the party and the Na-Mr. Chung founded to push for signed from the party and the Nahonest government and economic tional Assembly, where he won a liberalization, said in an interview seat last spring. The party had 36 last week, "He is crawling toward seats in the Assembly at its peak; it The innusual remarks, made to a Kim Young Sam. He just wants to now has just 16, Mr. Kim said. small group of reporters over lunch save his own life. But he has burt so Mr. Chung insisted that the in

dropped and that it had nothing to In fact, just a year after it do with his carefully scripted re-

Mr. Chung had formed a credible third-party challenge last year. winning a sizable footbold in the National Assembly last spring and then thundering throughout the election campaign in the fall that the governing Democratic Liberai Party and its candidate, Kim Young Sam, were incompetent and dishonest. Like Mr. Perot. Mr.

cantation. But government officials in Seoul said the charges still stood.

middle-class discontent. But now he whistles a differea: tune, insisting that his dispute over taxes had really been with the outgoing president. Roh Tae Woo.

Chung tapped into a deep vein of

"Personally, I think that even though I was defeated the Korean people made a wise choice." Mr. Chung said. "They chose a wonderful guy. That's my honest feeling. Kim Young Sam is an honest poli-tician, and he has a fine character."

But with his party in disarray and many in it feeling let down, Mr. Chung is commonly reviled in South Korea. Some warn that he may have ruined the chances for a third party to rise again for years.

"I started the party with him to fight corruption," said Kim Dong Gil, sitting amid the nearly desert-ed offices that crackled with energy just a few months ago. "Now I'm

precarious journey."

Mr. Chung received only about 16 percent of the popular vote in the December election. The presidency was won by Kim Young Sam, with 42 percent, and he was inaugurated last weck. What seemed to hurt Mr. Chung more than the loss was a relentless assault on his organization by prose-

Mr. Chung's son and more than 50 other Hyundai officials were arrested on an array of charges, from tax evasion to accusations that they illegally funneled the conglomerate's cash to Mr. Chung's party. The most humiliating blow came in early February, when Mr. Chung himself was indicted for having taken more than \$60 million improperly from Hyundai for the

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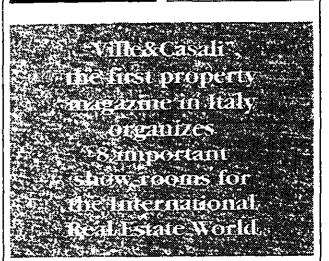
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Don't Press North Korea, Russia Says

TOKYO — North Korea should not be pressured to open nuclear facilities to outside inspection because its Stalinist government could react ina drastic manner, Russian diplomatic sources in Tokyo said Thursday.

The overall crisis is deepening in North Korea," a source said, referring to Pyongyang's wors-ening economic situation and increased political isolation. "That's why we must leave it some room to maneuver, especially with the special kind of government that it is."

Russia was in complete agreement with the

international community about halting the proliferation of nuclear weapons, the Russian sources said. But, at the same time, Moscow was against any timetable to force the North Koreans to comply with inspection requests, they said.

The International Atomic Energy Agency made an urgent appeal last week to Pyongyang to allow inspectors to visit two nuclear sites. Representatives from 35 countries making up

the nuclear watchdog's board of governors set a March 25 deadline for Pyongyang to comply with the inspection demands before the agency consider taking "further measures."

China Stands Firm: Patten's Plan Must Go Before Any Talks

Hong Kong's transfer to China ended in December with a Chinese But he said the plan of the Hong Kong governor, Chris Patten, to make Hong Kong more democratic before 1997 has made that difficult. threat to boycott talks unless Mr. Patten scrapped his blueprint. There have been persistent rethe Xinhua press agency reported. ports in recent weeks that China and Britain have discussed reopen-

The last round of negotiations on

Mr. Li said Beijing wanted the two sides to "sit down and talk," ing talks and that an announcebut only on the condition that Britment was imminent. ain gives up Mr. Patten's plan and adheres to the "understandings and

smooth transition in 1997, when Hong Kong is to revert to Chinese two sides."

agreements already reached by the tion at a weekly briefing Thursday, 1997 and did not include the kind and repeated China's position that of measures Mr. Patten is proposand repeated China's position that of measures Mr. Patten is propostalks could not be held until Britain ing, China insists.

abandoned the Patten plan.
"The crux of the matter is that the British side should abandon Mr. Patten's plan for political reform and come back to the Sino-British Joint Declaration," said the spokesman, Li Jianying.

The declaration was part of the 1984 Chinese-British accord spelling out the conditions for Hong Kong's return to Chinese rule in sources said. (AP, Reuers, AFP) But a Chinese Foreign Ministry ing out the conditions for Hong spokesman sidestepped the ques- Kong's return to Chinese rule in

In Hong Kong, the government announced that Mr. Patten would !

make a statement on Hong Kong's

"way ahead" on Friday, when he is to address a special session of the colony's Legislative Council. Later in the day he is to fly to

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Job Done in Somalia

Three months after the successful and casualty-free landing of American troops in Somalia, the man who spearheaded the de-ployment, U.S. Special Envoy Robert Oak-ley, is returning to the United States. The country he leaves behind is still without a government, a legal system or any sem-blance of a permanent peace. Today's Somalia, however, is no longer the place of unspeakable suffering and mass starvation that shocked and shamed the world a few months ago. For that, Ambassador Oakley can rightly come home from his diplomatic endeavors with a sense of accomplishment.

It may be helpful to recall that a pacified and economically rehabilitated Somalia was never the objective of this bold, risky and unprecedented mission. The reason for intervening with a show of American leadership and military power last December was to get food to the starving. The purpose of the security-for-relief mission has been achieved: The grip of the gangs on the grain has been broken, convoys are moving relief shipments, and aid agencies no longer have to rely on bribery to feed the hungry.

The business of keeping roads open, resolving conflicts among rival warlords and reconstructing civil authority is now, as it

always has been, the responsibility of Soma-lis themselves under the care and guidance of the United Nations. As an understandably impatient United States prepares to remove the bulk of its forces, perhaps by May, the looming question is whether this operation, costly in casualties, lives and money, will make a lasting difference. The answer to that is in the hands of the Somalis — and other nations that have an obligation.

The transition to a United Nations peacekeeping operation has already slipped behind schedule, because of continued outbreaks of violence but also because of UN dithering. Secretary-General Butros Butros Ghali should press member nations which enthusiastically supported humanitarian intervention when the preponderant forces were to be American, to demonstrate an equal willingness to send their own replacement troops to Somalia now. The brutal, power-hungry clans and armed teenage maranders were no match for the United States and the other deployed forces. The groundwork has been laid for a UN operation with teeth. A critical testing period has arrived in the Horn of Africa - and more than Somalia is on trial.

- THE WASHINGTON POST.

Inter-American Affairs

After a false start, the Clinton administration has come up with a sound nominee to be assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs. Alexander Watson is a seasoned career diplomat who served as U.S. ambassador to Peru and most recently as deputy chief of mission at the United Nations. As important, putting him forward means that the Senate confirmation hearings will not be dominated by snarling exchanges about Fidel Castro and the future of post-Castro Cuba.

To avoid that prospect, the Clinton team backed away from a Cuban-American it had initially considered for the same vital post, Mario Baeza, a Wali Street lawyer who specializes in privatizing state-owned enterprises, was denounced as soft on Mr. Castro by Cuban-American hard-liners in Miami. Mr. Baeza's critics never gave him the courtesy of a hearing, pointing up the deep emotions stirred among Cuban-Americans in Miami and elsewhere. Cuba is but one of a dozen countries that

contend for Washington's attention. Huge Brazil is beset by a collapsing economy and corruption scandals that brought down its president. Democratic Venezuela has been

rattled by attempted coups. A peace accord in El Salvador might come unstuck if its government fails to purge the armed forces. Nicaragua's freely elected president, Vio-leta Chamorro, is challenged on every side. Peru under an erratic president is still besieged by Shining Path guerrillas, Colombia by drug lords, and so forth.

In Havana, a failing tyranny stumbles toward history's dustbin. Fidel Castro could hardly have sounded wearier in his remarks to the foreign press last week: This has been a very long race - too long ... I feel I am a slave to the revolution." Since seizing power in 1959 he has tormented eight U.S. presidents. Now, with the collapse of communism, Cuba has lost its arms suppliers, its trading partners and its ideological bearings. The safest, wisest course for Washington

is to let Cuba fester, and shun actions that could be construed as treating the island as booty to be devoured by emigres hungry for old privileges. The cool, professional eye of an Alexander Watson offers the promise of keeping Cuba, and the rest of the hemisphere, in maturer perspective.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Presidents and the Law

American presidents and Supreme Courts have had their odd dealings over the years, but this may be the first time the court has been called upon to uphold a campaign flip-flop.
As a candidate, Bill Clinton condemned

as immoral the Bush administration's policy of forcing boatloads of refugees back to Haiti, and he praised a court that found that approach ille gal. But just before his inauguration, Mr. Clinton, fearing a huge influx of refugees, adopted the Bush policy.

This week he asked the Supreme Court to find that policy legal or, better still, to rule that courts cannot order the president to obey a treaty and immigration law. The high court can do president and nation a huge service by denying this latest overblown claim to exclusive executive power.

Despite a refugee treaty and a 1980 law instituting it, George Bush and Bill Clinton both claim the right to return masses of refugees to Haiti without first ascertaining which among them deserve asylum. Mr. Clinton says there is a "big difference" in his program because it is designed to save the lives of refugees in rickety boats. But Mr. Bush gave the same justification. More candid, perhaps, is Mr. Clinton's remark that "maybe I was too harsh in my criti-

cism" of Mr. Bush during the campaign.
This week's argument repeats the Bush claim that the commander in chief, deploying vessels on the high seas to intercept Haitians, is impervious to court restraints. The Bush Justice Department said that a lower court — the same one praised by

candidate Clinton - "intruded intolerably" in military and foreign policy matters in a lawsuit on behalf of Haitian refugees. More politely, the Clinton Justice Department now asks the high court to allow U.S. vessels to continue "under the direction of the Coast Guard and the president and not the federal courts."

But the refugees' lawsuit, which the government once denounced as frivolous, does not ask judges to man the Coast Guard cutters. Contrary to the view of fans of an omnipotent executive, it is not a national weakness that the independent judiciary interprets the treaties and laws, telling the president when he reads them wrong.

Some said that the president was the winner last year when the Supreme Court, asked to enforce an extradition treaty with Mexico, allowed the kidnapping of a Mexican national in his own country for trial in the United States. Some victory. The decision told the world that America's vaunted judiciary would sit by while the executive branch scoured its international agreements for loopholes.

The basic solution is to restore democracy to Haiti, relieving pressure to flee that country either out of fear or in search of a better life. Meanwhile, the United States is legally bound not to return a fleeing Haitian without deciding eligibility for asylum. The Supreme Court can declare that simple matter of justice, depriving the Clinton administration of a shabby legal victory and sparing the nation an international black eye.

- THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Other Comment

India Is Not an Island

Reports of Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao's political demise might have been premature. The destruction of the mosque at Ayodhya by militant Hindus together with the subsequent riots and sectari-an strife had weakened Mr. Rao's authority and put market reform in jeopardy. But then came the budget announcement from Finance Minister Manmohan Singh, which made clear that not only would reforms continue, they would be accelerated. Most overdne was the announcement of a fully convertible rupee for trade. Past Indian governments, as Mr. Singh

told Parliament, have used an artificially valued rupee to subsidize imports at the expense of exports. The Indian economy has paid a price for this form of protection in terms of fat and inefficient domestic enterprises and an unattractive climate for foreign investors. Perhaps the only Indian export that such barriers promoted was the one the country can least afford: the exodus

of a talented and educated people to parts of the world where their enterprise and creativity are allowed to flourish.

There is still little chance of the Indian economy's being confused with the free-trade regimes of Hong Kong and Singapore. But no one should miss the larger point: that an increasingly global economy means no country can be an island. If even India, with a sixth of the world's population, can no longer close itself off from the virtues of competition, who can? — Far Eastern Economic Review (Hong Kong).

Bosnia: A Little, and Late

Reports that Muslims were killed while retrieving U.S. food and medical supplies airdropped into Bosnia highlight the opera-tion's dangerous hit-and-miss nature. But at least President Bill Clinton, and now the Russians, are doing something — unlike their European counterparts. The pity is that Washington did not get involved a year ago. - Gulf Daily News (Manama, Bahrain).

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OPINION

Clinton Seems to Be Off to a Good Start

WASHINGTON — Two deadlines are driv-ing President Bill Clinton's foreign policy thinkers as they plunge into shaping guidelines for what one top official called America's "first post-Cold War administration." They are the early April summit in Copenhagen with Presi-dent Boris Yeltsin of Russia, and the mid-July Tokyo summit of seven industrial nations, which Mr. Yeltsin doubtless will attend, although there is a problem of who should invite him.

Despite the promise to focus on domestic issues, there is clearly a sense that national American and

By Flora Lewis

American impetus to get them moving together.

Some scarcely visible structural changes have been made to promote better teamwork inside Washington, partly in the way key appointments are made, which accounts for some of the delays, partly by special links between the new National Economic Council and the long-established National and the long-established National Research and Research tional Security Council. People dealing with overlapping domestic and international issues

The rest of the world may get the kind of America it has long been saying it wants — a vigorous, eager partner but not a hegemon.

international affairs cannot be separated, particularly in economics. The United States is not about to turn its back on the world, although neither

will it accept lonely responsibilities.

The decision to air-drop supplies to eastern Bosnia is an example of the approach, although admittedly it was a symbolic, tactical and initial step toward grappling with the much larger problem of Balkan politics.

Allied governments told the United States to

help push through the Vance-Owen scheme for enclaves in Bosma or go it alone with some other plan. Washington definitely wants others involved, including Russia, and is feeling its

way to longer-term engagement.

NATO is handling the military planning, a
way of assuring continued American participation and of enticing the Russians, who are eager for recognition as security partners. Even France has quietly dropped objections to extending NA-TO's role and indicated willingness to take part in this aspect of its operations. There is a little more time to prepare the G-7

summit in Tokyo, but, like the first Clinton-Yeltsin meeting, it is seen as a critical moment to launch the momentum. In the last few years, those annual sessions have produced wishful rhetoric and scant results on urgent cooperation to restore economic growth, agree on new trade rules and organize help for Russia. All the governments are looking inward now, and the new administration recognizes that it will take firm

are being ordered to work on joint papers and report to both directors, a method intended to avert traditional battles for turf.

Mickey Kantor, the U.S. trade repr has said some harsh things that make it sound more difficult than ever to conclude a GATT agreement. But colleagues say this is how he negotiates and that he really wants a deal, aware that the United States needs one as much as its partners. Meanwhile, lower-ranking officials have been ordered to draw up studies showing

how GATT and the free trade agreement with Mexico and Canada will help U.S. recovery and

provide American jobs.

That is a key to the Clinton approach, an energetic concentration on mobilizing the do-mestic support needed to carry decisions through to execution. It is why he keeps racing around the country as though he were still campaigning for election and shies away from too much spectacular and shies away from the same away from the same and shies away from the same away from the same away from the same away f lar presence in foreign affairs, although advisers are aware that international policy will not work unless he is seen to be involved.

unless he is seen to be involved.

Key foreign policy issues are being addressed with small steps so far — encouragingly in the right direction toward more cooperation, but without the explanations that would assure foreign partners of where Mr. Clinton really intends to go. This is a gap that has provoked criticism about a lack of policy.

It does refer pendence a concern not to go

It does reflect prudence, a concern not to go too fast without full consideration of consequences. But it also reflects a deliberate policy of leaving articulation of foreign objectives until the basis is in place, rather than setting goals before figuring out how to move toward them.

Mr. Clinton seems to want to leave the job of

speaking to the world for America to others for now, while he speaks as directly as possible to Americans and seeks to create a revival of energy and confidence. Many of the others have not yet been confirmed by the Senate and are not al-lowed to speak, but their approach is knowledgeable and sounds reassuring.

My impression at this early stage is that if the

president's economic program can maintain pub-lic enthusiasm and begin to show effect, the rest of the world will get the kind of America it has long been saying it wants — a vigorous, eager partner but not a begennon ordering others around. That means that the rest of the world will have

to be willing to share more responsibilities. Other national leaders will have to do a better job of explaining to their own publics why cooperation. which means compromise is necessary and bene-ficial and why some local interests will have to give way to larger international interests. It won't be easy, but from up close, Washington looks to be getting off to a good start. If it works, everyone stands to gain.

Plane Lewis.

Philippines: A Long Road, but Ramos Is Under Way

By Philip Bowring

Manila — Things are looking up in the Philippines, although there is still a long way to go. Correct economic policies and considerable luck for a country so prone to natural disasters will not be enough to revive a nation whose institutions are as poorly maintained as its physical infrastructure. But after a slow start, President Fidel Ramos is beginning to look serious about tackling some fundamental problems.

He may appear an unlikely figure to do so. He was associated with both the Marcos kleptocracy and the indecisive Aquino government. Despite a clean personal image, he had com-mand of the notoriously corrupt Phil-ippine Constabulary (now part of the national police). He is dull in a nation that loves rhetoric. He scraped into office with a mere 23 percent of the vote. He has to work with a Congress controlled by opposition parties.

His first eight months in office

have been dominated by headlines about power cuts and a spate of kidnappings for ransom, mostly of eth-nic Chinese businessmen. (These abductions, it is widely believed, could take place only with the connivance of senior police.)

But now there are signs of remedial action and resolve. Most significant have been long-needed efforts to tackle corruption in law enforcement. A former chief of police has been charged with graft. His successor has resigned. Further purges are in prospect. There are still many Filipinos who doubt that Mr. Ramos has the power to clean up the police. But, urged on by the public, which has become less resigned to crime, the president now has the initiative

He is also taking on the judiciary, which poses three problems for efficient government: corruptibility;

PARIS - By next month,

ment, but not a new president.

François Mitterrand has two years

remaining in his presidential term.

and says that he has no intention of

resigning merely because the con-

servative and centrist opposition is

expected to win the parliamentary

elections about to take place. He

will stay, he says, to protect the

Compared with the

Britain and Italy,

problems of Germany,

France's are only little

local difficulties. But

people's "social gains" against what he suggests will be the conscience-less depredations of the right.

No one has serious doubt that the

right will win. The only question is

whether enough of the voters who put the Socialist Party into power five years ago will this time vote for

the resurgent ecology parties (there are two of them) rather than the

center-right, and thereby limit the opposition's expected landslide.

No great issue divides left from right. The Socialist government simply has crumbled under the pressure of financial scandal (originally over party funding but now implicating party funding with akimmel family

individuals who skimmed funds

took bribes or accepted compromis-ing gifts and loans) and a public

scandal over the government's re-

sponsibility in the distribution of AIDS-tainted blood to hemophili-

acs. Add to that the boredom factor.

People are greatly bored with the

that is not what the

electorate thinks.

France will have a new govern-

convoluted procedures that frustrate justice; and power plays by judges who have frustrated executive decisions by hearing sometimes dubious judicial challenges to them. The judiciary has held up electric-

ity price rises, adding to the power crisis and putting World Bank energy loans in jeopardy. Mr. Ramos recently forced the resignation of a Su-preme Court judge who had been

immense problems, but the president looks serious about tackling some of them. He has shown resolve, and an openness to the outside.

The country still faces

unduly influenced by a lawyer for Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co., which had gone to court to try to preserve its phone monopoly. Other resignations and retirements should enable Mr. Ramos to pack the court.
Congress, although full of lawyers, is
now sympathetic to broader reform
of the judicial system. The phone company case signals a

willingness by the government to allow foreign competition to break up monopolies. These have long provided easy profits for the politically wellconnected and are blamed for many of the nation's economic ills. Mr. Ramos is pressing ahead with tariff reforms to open up domestic industry to greater competition.

Grumpy France Heads for a Change

By William Pfaff

Socialists, who have been in power

Socialists, who have been in power for all but two of the past 12 years. Nor is the right really looking forward to its victory, which risks being a "poisoned gift," as the French say. The bigger the victory, the more the public will expect solutions to problems left by the present government — most of which are, of their nature, impossible to solve in the two years that remain hefore Mr.

two years that remain before Mr.

Mitterrand must leave office, and the country elect a new president.

a conservative prime minister and parliamentary majority to get into sufficient trouble to make the public

turn back to the left. It may also be

time enough for the left to put its

house in order, under new leaders.

The leading Socialist candidate for the presidency, a former prime

minister who has always been a rival of Mr. Mitterrand's, Michel

Rocard, is calling for total political

recomposition on the left -a big

bang" to explode all the old group-ings and structures, leading to the creation of a new left assembling (as he would see it) all men of goodwill, the newly popular Greens notably included in his invitation.

This is not what the parties on the right want to hear. They have an

unresolvable problem in that their

seemingly unremovable leaders are aging and overfamiliar, even annoy-

ing to the electorate — an ex-presi-dent, Valery Giscard d Estaing, and

former Prime Minister Jacques

Presumably, a lesser-ranking conservative politician will be-come prime minister under Mr.

Mitterrand during the expected two

years of "cohabitation" of left and right, leading up to the presidential election scheduled for 1995.

The job at least offers a spring-

Chirac, both men of the 1970s.

Two years is just long enough for

In the past, unholy alliances of left-leaning nationalists and protected lo-cal producers (many of them foreignowned) kept a lid on competition. But economic nationalism has been waning in the Philippines. As in Latin America, such a policy is seen to have led to economic stagnation. Many of the younger Filipino business leaders are now more willing to face competiare now more wining to face chapter-tion or seek alliances with dynamic overseas Chinese groups.

Mr. Ramos has signaled a less iso-lationist attitude with a series of visits

to Asian countries in an effort to drum up investment and improve his country's battered image.
Through its own fault, the Philip-

pines has missed out on the major waves of Japanese and Taiwanese investment in manufacturing in East Asia. But there is still money to be made if Mr. Ramos can improve the national image.

That may seem too much to expect in a fragmented society with a cumbersome political system and weak bureaucracy. But the president has gone out of his way to try to co-opt Congress to support his program.

Although his own party started with few official members in either house of the legislature, Mr. Ramos has used his powers of patronage and the political skills of the speaker to get members of the House of Reoresentatives, all of whom face re-election in 1995, on his side. The Senate, too, is aware that the public expects more effective government. Senators are concerned that if the system cannot deliver, it will eventually be overthrown. They have responded posi-tively to Mr. Ramos's efforts to tighten executive-legislative links.

The president may have less suc-

board to the leadership of the right

when Messrs. Chirac and Giscard

d'Estaing retire or can finally be

pushed aside. But there are large opportunities to go wrong as well. Included in the poisoned gift that

the Socialist government leaves be-

hind is 10 percent (and rising) un-

employment and an unprecedented level of public debt.

Hence, this is an election in which the Socialists are depressed

and resigned to defeat, the right fearful of what it is taking on, as

well as apprehensive about what

will happen to it in 1995; and the

voting public is anathetic, if not actively hostile to the political class.

The press speaks of a "morose" France; indeed it is.

And yet there is nothing seriously

wrong. By comparison with Germa-

ny, Britain and Italy, France is in

marvelous shape. It is in far sound-er economic and social condition

than the United States, even though the United States now at last is

Germany is in grave financial

difficulties because of the mishan-dling of reunification, and it experi-

ences serious racial violence and

social conflict. Britain is politically adrift, its leaders flailing, unem-ployment's rise seemingly unstop-

pable, the public demoralized, saying that it would abandon the

country and emigrate if there were

any place to go. Italians see virtual-

ly an entire generation of Italian politicians and industrialists com-

promised by public corruption or criminal links. By comparison with

all of that, France's are only little

But that is not what the elector-

ate thinks. Hence, this is a cheerless election time, and in a cold Paris

March the post-electoral spring-

International Herald Tribune.

C Las Angeles Tones Syndicate.

time seems far away.

attacking its problems.

cess in negotiating an end to the Communist and Muslim insurgen-cies. Both have been much diminished by the democratic process and suffer from internal rifts. Greater dangers to democracy still lurk among disgruntled officers in the armed forces. Mr. Ramos recognizes that effective government can neutralize such threats. The Philippines, which only produces a small portion of the oil it

consumes, may now be in store for some good luck. Philippine oil finds in the South China Sea used to be subject to wild exaggeration. The lat-est ones, by a Shell-led group, seem to have been underplayed. It appears that by 1995 about half of the country's oil could be produced locally. The economic impact of the loss of the U.S. military bases has now been

absorbed. Many believe that the nation will be healthier without America as a too-convenient scapegoat. Noneth immense problems. The decay of roads, the power grid and other infrastructure under the pressure of low

savings will slow the nation for years. So, too, will population growth, now at an annual rate of 2.5 percent. Official targets call for 7 percent GNP growth, but more realistic mediumterm estimates are 3 to 4 percent. Foreign debt is now manageable, but there is a gigantic domestic over-hang from the Marcos years, and this

has been worsened by high interest rates to hold down demand. Another problem has been discouragement of productive investment in favor of money markets. Some relaxation of credit is likely this year, but the payments balance remains precarious. One of several problems with the Philippine dite is its unwillingness to pay taxes. Government revenue is a low 14 percent of GNP, much of this from tariffs. After paying for debt interest, the armed forces, education

and public health, there is little left

Political power has long been used as a path to wealth through kickbacks and corruption. There is a lack of investment in job-creating industries, but Manila has a gint of condominiums and upmarket offices. With such examples at the top, it is hardly sur-prising that standards of public administration are abysmal Can President Ramos transcend

the system that created him? At least now he seems to be trying. International Herald Tribune.

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Good Word From Syria: 'Gradually',

By Leslie H. Gelb

N EW YORK — Israeli diplomats told the new and untested American secretary of state to expect some kind of pleasant surprise in Damascus two weeks ago. President Hamascus two weeks ago. President Hafez Assad of Syria, ever the seducer
and strategist, did not disappoint. He
gave Warren Christopher a secret
diplomatic gift that could lead to a
redrawing of Middle Eastern battle
lines and has already caused the
United States, Syria and Israel to revamp negotiating priorities.

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The Syrian strongman told the chief U.S. diplomat that he was reserved. for a major deal with Israel. He re-peated public statements about tradng "total peace" with Israel for "total withdrawal" by Israel from Syria's Golan Heights. Then he unwrapped his dramatic present: He would no longer insist on instant or even early Israeli withdrawal. He would agree to both sides carrying out their obligations "gradually."

This was precisely the magic word Yitzhak Rabin had been looking for. The Israeli prime minister had sig-naled his desire to exchange land for peace, but the security risk had to be manageable. Israel could not and would not take the chance of withdrawing from the Golan until Syria actually demonstrated peaceful intentions, and that would have to take time. Israel would feel safe only if it could bring its forces down from the

heights gradually.

The sides still have to define "gradually." More important, they have to agree on the meanings of "total withdrawal" and "total peace." Israel is prepared for a near-total pullout, not a total one. Syria wants everything out, including Is-rael's civilian settlements.

Mr. Assad's diplo-blitz surprised the Christopher party. They had ex-pected him to wait longer before making any big moves, in order to assess President Bill Clinton's mettle But the Syrian's agreeableness on the Golan and willingness to abandon unreasonable Palestinian demands convinced the Americans that he bad even larger purposes in mind.
The subtext in the Assad-Christo-

pher dialogue was that Damascus wants to establish a new relationship with Washington and felt that this was the right time to move. Mr. Assad knows that the only way to the American heart is through peace with Israel.

Mr. Rabin was, of course, delighted with Mr. Christopher's report of Syrian gradualism. Given the prime minister's intense personal commit-ment to a treaty with Syria, the Americans feared that he might be too delighted —and try to sidetrack the autonomy talks with the Palestinians. If anything, however, Mr. Christo-

pher ended up more frustrated with the Palestinians than Mr. Rabin was. In his meeting with Palestinian lead-ers he showed great impatience with their inability to make any decisions. They only wanted to talk about the return of their brethren deported

by Israel and stranded in a Lebanese no-man's-land. Israel had already gone far to meet those concerns, but they kept demanding concessions that they knew Israel could not and would not give. Finally Mr. Christopher offered a generous solution —including U.S. pledges to speed up the deportees' return, oppose future deportations and support various United Nations resolutions prized by the Palestinians - and told them to take it or leave it.

The immediate upshot of the Christopher Mideast tour was that the key parties agreed to switch ne-gotiating priorities. They are now readying the fast track for a Syrian-Israeli deal and have relegated the tedious but still critical talks on Palestiman autonomy to a slower lane. Arabs and Israelis alike praised Mr. Christopher's first outing on ter-

rain that has proved either a grave-yard or a springboard for his recent predecessors. He gave away nothing to the Syrians, was trough with the Palestimans and prodded the Israelis. His only tactical mistake was a failure to pay enough attention to Shimon Peres, the Israeli foreign minister, whose power now rivals or exceeds Mr. Rabin's in the govern-

ing Labor Party and whose ideas on regional issues like economic develcoment and arms control deserve a better hearing.
Mr. Christopher has begun to re-

veal a wily negotiating and public relations style. Taking a page from Henry Kissinger's script on bow to lower expectations, he started his Mideast trip saying that he was going out there only to listen. He brought home the possibility of much more. The New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1893: Latin Quarter Riot PARIS - There was another distor-

bance in the Latin Quarter yesterday (March 4]. It occurred at the Faculty of Law, when M. Ductos' lecture had to be suspended. The disturbance was caused by two lectures coming so close together that students complained they had not the time to breathe. After an unfortunate remark of M. Ducros the riot commenced. Later, medical students started a disturbance, their grievance being that the first year of medical study ought to be suppressed as they consider it useless.

1918: An Ignoble Peace

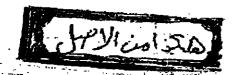
PARIS - The Herald says in an editorial: The whole awful story of the Bolshevist treachery is reflected in a shameless peace treaty concluded with the Central Empires. Lenin and Trotzky have traded their country to Prussianism. The great Muscovite gi-ant lies prostrate, shorn of his strength by those who first caroled

him by alluring phrases and then be-trayed him to fulfill their bargain with their Potsdam paymaster. Peace has been signed by the Bolshevik, but it is incomprehensible that the nobler elements of the nation will accept such an inglorious destiny. Russia's potential strength is incalculable, and the giant may yet struggle to his feet.

1943: Roosevelt Cartoon WASHINGTON - From our New

York edition: JA picture booklet, "Life of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Thirty-second President of the United States," published by the government and distributed in eleven languages besides English, was assailed today [March 4] on the floor of the House by Representative John Taber, a New York Republican, as "a lot of cheap political propaganda" designed "to promote a fourth term and a dictatorship." The cost of the booklet to the taxpayers was \$13.951.950. It depicts, in car-toon-style, the life of the President from early boyhood to the present.

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OPINION

To Tax, to Spend or to Cut and Run

WASHINGTON — The supply-siders said you could reduce the deficit by cutting taxes, says a veteran Republican observer, "and they were wrong. The Clinton people say you can reduce the deficit without cutting

spending and they are wrong."

Implicit in this both-house-plaguing is a blinding insight that would surely win the Nobel Prize in economics for any iconoclastic genius who dares to put it forward:

The crowd-pleasing way to reduce

By William Safire

hold the line on taxes. 2. Taxation is no longer a political sin.

Bill Clinton has transmogrified his promised middle-class tax cut into a \$400-a-year-per-family energy tax increase, and sold it by hitting the upper brackets deliciously harder and acting as if he aches to cut the deficit.

seen to be too good to be true, and

Democrats want stimulus by spending now and taxing a little later — while

Republicans want to do neither and let

the good times pick up steam.

Press ENTER. The lightning conclu-

sion from the presugious Rightwing

Everybody is finding a good excuse not to reduce the deficit at all yet, and

never to reduce it substantially.

A secondary, schadenfrendian con-

clusion: In the politics of contributory

than the illusion of shared pain.

O.K.; now the Tax-and-Cut Movement has something solid to work with.

We (and that's an editorial "we"; the

Movement has yet to get moving) say that nobody can tell when the perfect moment will come to get serious about

The activist libs will always say "later,

Pundits' Index:

reducing the deficit.

. Clintonomics — 'tax and spend and keep on thinking about cutting tomorrow' — is not our policy. We prefer cutting more and taxing less; high tax rates will bring back loopholes and armies of accountants.

the deficit is to cut spending and raise 5 percent growth rate, but this is widely

Too complex a thought, you say? You will be joined in your derision of this stunning concept by hordes of liberal economists who say that acmally reducing spending now would drag down the economy, aborting the Clinton Recovery and throwing more people out of work.

You will also find conservative allies in hooting down the heresy of tax-and-cut: Supply-side economists are still certain that any tax increase would stifle the growth begun last year, which in turn would reduce tax revenues and

make the deficit worse. Under this barrage from both sides, the nascent tax-and-cut movement has agreed to submit its plan for computerized review to produce the prestigious Rightwing Pundits' Politico-Economic Confidence Index (RPPECI).

Let's input the data: 1. Deficit reduction is a political vir-1. Deficit reduction is a political vir-tue, the motherhood and apple pie of the says "someday, I'll run on a plan"; the

supply-siders will say "never — lea growth do it." Our Movement's position: Do it now. 90s, replacing the old determination to This steals the best reduction ideas

from both sides and offers Perotism without Perot. What you lose in fiscal

railies in (iscal drag.)
We grumble about how Mr. Clinton
double-crossed us with that "New Democrat" stuff, and is governing far more 3. The economy is clipping along at a leftily than he campaigned, but such is politics. Now that he is using deficit reduction as his rallying cry, we should insist he deliver the goods on real deficit reduction.

We say that we want Mr. Clinton to succeed, but what we mean is that we want him to succeed using our tax-alittle, cut-a-lot way — or at least by making his sales pitch his real policy. Clintonomics as it has been revealed

- "tax and spend and keep on thinking about cutting tomorrow" - is not our policy. Like the Federal Reserve's Alan Greenspan, we prefer that Mr. Clinton cut more and tax less, because his high tax rates will bring back all the loopholes and armies of accountants that bend business decisions out of shape.

If the goal is balancing the budget, the Tax-and-Cut Movement thinks the New Direction is off in the wrong direction. We like free markets, not "strategic trade" managed by bureaucrats managed by lobbyists for monopolies of the style favored by Japan's Ministry of In-ternational Trade and Industry, or "industrial policy" turning over subsidies

to electronic highwaymen.

But the liberals are in, and we cannot expect them to act like conservatives. All the Reasonable Right can do is try to cool the new president's hot ideological excesses and remind the singer of the meaning of the words in his song. In time, there will be a demand for change.

The New York Times.

When Pulling the Plug Seems the Only Choice

By Philip Crawford

D ARIS — The establishment in the physician may help a terminally ill person take his own life is welcomed by those of us who have watched a loved one suffer through the final stages of a had no intention of going gentle into debilitating disease. The Dutch approach should serve as a model.

MEANWHILE

nerve to carry it out, or to go public with their feelings. Dozens of them have told me as much.

"Of course I approve of it in the ory," goes a typical response, "but I don't know that I could do it."

About 12 years ago, my father told me one day that he had something important to talk about. Seated on a bed in a New Jersey hotel room, he suddenly burst into tears; it was the first time I had seen him even misty-eyed. He had been told that he had amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or Lou Gehrig's disease, he said. The first symptoms had been muscle twitches in his left shoulder that would not go away. The doctor had told him that most ALS patients were dead within five years of diagnosis. He could al-ready feel the stiffness spreading into

For two years his neuromuscular system gradually deteriorated. First, he couldn't button his shirt. Then, he needed a cane to walk. His speech became shurred, as if he had had

We bought a wheelchair. Getting Netherlands of rules by which a him dressed became a project. Through all of this, he tried to go on performing his job as a utility company executive; he wanted to show that he that good night.

I remember wheeling him into a Sadly, many physicians support the board meeting in New York one win-concept of euthanasia but lack the ter's day and seeing the hornified looks on the faces of people he had known for years who had no idea he was ill. He opened the meeting by struggling to say that, no matter how bad it looked, he expected to be in office for many years to come.

He wasn't, of course. Shortly after that, the company asked him to resign. The disease gained momentum, although doctors could not say what the full extent of disability would ultimately be. In some ALS cases, paralysis suddenly stops progressing and pa-tients live much longer.

Soon, however, my father could barely move or talk. He communicated through a special computer, an innovation at that time. The computer's face was composed of little glass windows that corresponded to the letters of the alphabet. He sat facing it, with a special sensor taped to the rim of his glasses. By moving his head and direct-ing the sensor's light beam into the windows, he could "type" messages onto a remote printout panel.

This system worked great for a while. But then his neck muscles went; he couldn't hold up his head. It hung like a rag doll's unless it was tied to the back of his wheelchair. The computer went back to the clinic.



The final chapter was set in a hospital room, with his emaciated body booked up to a battery of machines that kept him alive. I remember sitting there talking to him about death. He was not even a "talking head," that awful term sometimes used to describe quadriplegics. He could move one eye-brow a little, and press your arm ever so gently with a finger. That's all.

told you in no uncertain terms that he had had enough. Recent medical research on ALS may have raised hopes for slowing its progress in a small percentage of victims. But to actually reverse the dis-

One look into the deep wells of his eyes

ease's ravages remains a dream.

My father was luckier than many in his state. His ulcer hemorrhaged two days later. This brought on cardiac arrest and rapid death. Otherwise, doctors said, he could have lived for months or even a year or two on the life-support system.

I am convinced that in those dreadful straits be would have wanted us to pull the plug; I trust we would have figured out a way to do it.

I am equally convinced that had "doctor-assisted suicide" been an option, he would have availed himself of it rather than live on as a paralyzed muie, as dependent as an infant on those around him.

Perhaps the Dutch legislation will give other countries the courage to develop similar provisions. That is probably asking too much, though The trend seems to be in the other direction. In Michigan, lawmakers vot-

suicide illegal.

What might help? Perhaps a few more physicians who see euthanasia for what it is — a righteous, dignification of the contractions. fied choice made under extraordinary circumstances - could stand up and be counted.

International Herald Tribune.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Taiwan La China

. Regarding "Taiwan Is Not China"

It is factually and historically incorrect to say Taiwan is not a part of China. All Taiwanese, except for the aborigines, who make up about 1 percent of the population, are Chinese who came from the mainland over the past 350 years. The local dialect of Taiwan is bas ically the same as that of Fujian Province on the mainland side of the Taiwan Straits. Since the 17th century, Taiwan has been formally a part of China, except for the period of Japanese occupation from 1895 to 1945. Because of the civil war in 1949 the government of the Republic of China moved to Taipei and the People's Republic of China was established in Beijing. But Taiwan's official status as a Chinese province never changed. Taiwan-

ese are Chinese just as Cantonese are Chinese and New Yorkers are American. What Mr. Chen is really arguing for is not democracy but Taiwan indepen-dence. In a democranic Taiwan, the people are sovereign and are free to choose their destiny. A large majority of the people realize that racially, culturally, linguistically and geographically they are inextricably tied to the rest of China. Political reunification will be difficult and may take a long time because of the huge income gap between Taiwan and the mainland.

But with the rapid economic changes occurring on the mainland (financed largely by investors from Tanwan and Hong Kong), social and political change will be unavoidable, and what may seem difficult today may become a reality in

> CHIH-CHIEN HSU. Taipei.

The Health of Health Care Regarding "What Price Medical Care?" (Letters, Feb. 18): Barbara Raither writes that she is grateful that I was in France covered

by national health insurance" but does not record the cost involved, which is one of the highest in the world. Despite huge taxes, all European health systems, including the French apparatus, are in heavy deficit. As to the quality of the medicine concerned, American medical science is unques-

tionably the finest in the world. HERBERT JOHNSON.

Patient, Heal Thyself

Regarding "Time to Look at Alterna-tive Medicine" (Opinion, Feb. 3) by Charles R. Halpern:

We are responsible for the mess health care is in whenever we ask a physician -- conventional or alternative -to do something for us that we should be doing for ourselves, be it eating fewer Twinkies, getting off the couch and jog-ging, or meditating instead of popping aspirin. Oh, what an expensive, deadly price is now being paid.

LINDA K. CLEMENT. Marly-le-Roi, France.

Homophobia in France

Regarding "A French Perspective on War of the Sexes" (Back Page, Feb. 15) by Mary Bhane:

French self-congratulation at the expense of Americans is all too familiar. Madame Badinter to the contrary, gay-bashing is rampant in France as well as the United States. As just one example, an acquaintance of mine spent three

motorcycle types attacked a bar in central Paris. Naturally this and other incidents go unreported. DAVID ROHN.

Defending the EMU

Your newspaper normally gives a bal-anced and intelligent view on world af-fairs. But on the monetary crisis, I get a different impression.

I feel you have been helping, de facto, those who would prefer what is left of the European Monetary Union to disappear from the international horizon for

as long as possible.

In recent days this has stopped. But the articles on the "plot" that you pub-lished on the basis of remarks by Chancellor Helmut Kohl or Prime Minister Pierre Bérégovoy encourage me to send

months in the hospital after a band of you my reactions: I, for one, certainly do not believe that the U.S. government is involved in any political plot against the

European Monetary Union.

What has happened is that interests which feel the EMU threatens the most profitable way for them to run their business have established a "party line." Such a "party line" can become a powerful instrument to achieve political objectives and to influence political circles.

I remain convinced that the EMU could make a real contribution to a more orderly and fair state of affairs in international imance.

HUBERT CARNIAUX.

Perfect Pitch

Regarding "West Indies Embarrass Pakistan" (Sports, Feb. 26): How can the Western Australian Cricket Association justify firing their

pared a perfect pitch for the fifth test match against the West Indies? All these years I have been under the impression that cricket was a gentleman's game played by gentlemen, although a few English and Australian players have given me reason to doubt this

groundsman on the basis that he pro-

I cannot imagine Wimbledon's groundsman being fired for not rigging the grass courts to favor John Lloyd against Jim Courier (the difference in ability being nearly the same as Austra-lia and the West Indies). The Aussies lost by an inning, which is a walkover. Even if they had waterlogged the

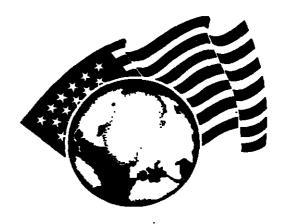
pitch, allowed the grass to grow and dug up the crease in order to give themselves an advantage, what makes them think that they would have won? Anyhow, firing a groundsman for being good is quite simply: not cricket.

OLIVIER CHARDON.

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New Quanzhou Embraces the Old

Vanished Trail of Marco Polo

By Fergus M. Bordewich

UANZHOU, China - "Bus to Quanzhou!" the conductor was urgently shouting. "Immediate departure!

It was something of an effort to leave Xiamen. The old port on the South China Sea had been a happy surprise. The picturesque seediness and the easygoing good nature of the inhabitants suggested a Levantine town of an earlier era. Even in January there was something vaguely Mediterranean in the gay blue and green shutters, and the stucco arcades that lined the main streets, and in the way the onetime colonial port opened up

to the sea Soon after I paid my fare, I realized that the bus to Quanzhou was going nowhere at all until it filled to capacity and beyond. All around me, in the muddy yard that was the bus depot, minuscule Japanese buses were jockeying through a maelstrom of touts, horns and milling travelers. But my own bus continued to exhibit a depressing mertia. Passengers began to get off and disappear. From eight, we sank to six, then to four. Those who remained hung out the windows,

shouting at passers-by to climb on.

Finally, in a spontaneous expression of the can-do spirit that separates the prosperous province of Fujian from much of the rest of China, my fellow passengers began grab-bing hold of indecisive travelers, dragging them aboard. They hoisted up a student as he stepped from a pedicab and then a stumpy woman with a baby in arms and a huge plastic sack. Next they grabbed a peasant who was stumbling beneath bales of umbrellas, which he later explained he planned to sell in his village.

"Quanzhou! Quanzhou! Quanzhou!" the conductor cried. "Immediate departure!" The bus having at last filled its quota, we rocketed off across the flat, damp countryside, through purple cane fields and stone villages where every roof curled crazily up, like steers' horns.

Quanzhou was the Hong Kong of medieval China, when it was known as Zaytun. Marco Polo called it "a splendid city" inhabited by "peaceable folk, fond of leisure and easy living," whose great seagoing junks re-turned from the corners of the known Orien-

IIIAR TIIS

■ Steven Seagal is having tough sledding with his directing career. In November, the "Under Siege" star was set to make his directing debut on a mobster film, "Man of Honor," but the project was canceled just days before filming was to start. Now Seagal's next directing project "Rainbow Warrior" has been postponed because Warner Bros. says there's not enough snow in Alaska. This came as a surprise to Alaskans: Valdez is buried under almost four feet of snow, while Nome has 10 inches.

tal world laden with "precious stones of great price and big pearls of fine quality." Polo arrived in China with his merchant father in 1271, eventually spending 24 years there; he ultimately became an ambassador for Kublai Khan and ranged over the empire

from Mongolia to Burma. Zaytum's heyday as an international entre-pôt lasted from the 12th century to the 15th century, when it was China's main door to the outside world. In Polo's day, the sprawling waterfront teemed with camphor-wood junks driven by huge rattan sails. Enterprising Zay-tun traders prowled the islands that would

become the Philippines and Indonesia, and west as far as Malabar and the Arabian Sea. Modern Quanzhou is a compact town of narrow, bustling streets, and sometimes gaily painted concrete and stucco buildings that rarely rise more than two or three stories. Silt long ago choked the medieval port; where the grand flotillas once idled, there are now only homely barges and rustic sampans shaded with plastic tarps. Nevertheless, Quanzhou radiates an appealing mixture of southern languor and restless energy that is in striking contrast to the grit and industrial

gloom of so many larger Chinese cities.

HE city's heart is a narrow commercial artery named Sun Yat-sen Road; the flourishing businesses that flank it bear hectic witness to the commercial revolution that has overtaken China. Beneath its lime-green, butter-yellow and maroon arcades, vendors hawk live crabs, blue jeans and brass door knockers etched with the trigrams of the I Ching. One corner sported a smith who would hammer out new woks on an anvil, the next a maker of handcrafted bellows, and the one after that a man who advertised homemade poison with a heap of dead rats.

A single day is sufficient to explore Qua hou. But I spent three days searching for

traces of Marco Polo and the city he knew. I discovered quickly enough that no trace of Polo survived. But there was much that spoke of Zaytun's golden maritime age. An excellent museum preserves fascinating collections of coral, ambergris, spices, sandal-wood, glazed pottery and other items that Zaytun's merchants traded across the southem seas and that have been excavated from undersea wrecks.

The museum's pièce de résistance is the remarkably well-preserved hull of a broadbellied 15th-century junk. On such a ship as this, I thought, Polo himself might have sailed away at last from the Celestial Kingdom.

Not far away, the crumbling though still massive roins of the 11th-century Qingjing Mosque suggest the wealth and prestige that Zaytum's Muslims enjoyed. Some served as local administrators, and others as customs collectors, and in time of need they pooled their funds to build the city's defensive wall.

The mosque's modest museum shelters an assortment of tantalizing tombstones coarsely carved in Arabic and Persian. Typed cards translated the names into Roman lettering: Makhid Asmar al Mushai-eddin, Nama



Abinia, Khalat Husayn, Hakyim Alad. These men of Shiraz, Isfahan and Yemen must have been the great merchants of their day, the distant forerunners of the Jardines and Sassoons. Had one of them, perhaps, caught a fleeting glimpse, one ancient after-noon, of the intrepid Venetian as pushed his way through the alleys of Zaytun's bazaar?

Unlike Polo, however, Zaytun's Arabs and Persians have not disappeared without trace. Their descendants still live in present-day Quanzhou, although their names had grown lignified as Dings, Guos and Huangs. If there was a connection with Zaytun's

medieval past. I thought, it lay here, in these solemn men, indistinguishable from any other Chinese but for their round cotton caps, powing and kneeling here as their ancestors had for nearly a thousand years.

Torrential showers spoiled my last morning in Quanzhou. To escape them, I dodged into the Kaiyuan Temple. Inside, there was the sweet smell of incense, and somewhere an echoing clatter, where supplicants were

throwing down carved crescents of wood whose random patterns would, for a fee, be interpreted by the resident monks. Stepping through the monumental red door into the dim and lofty sanctum, I found myself face to face with the three towering, gilded Buddhas of the past, present and future, mysterious in the half-light and smiling ineffably.

Beyond them, the goddess of mercy, Guanyin, radiated hundreds of gentle arms; still deeper in the temple, bathed in a coppery gold light, I could see Dicang, the orphic Chinese Buddha who, it was said, traveled ceaselessly through the netherworld to redeem the dead.

Perhaps Polo had once stood here too, I thought; a man of his time, he called Bud-dhists "idolators," but without disparagement, with the respectful curiosity of a man who had spent long years learning that Christian Venice was but a minor city in a remote corner of the world.

Fergus M. Bordewich, the author of "Cathay: A Journey in Search of Old China,

Provence's 'Truffle .

By Christopher Petkanas

UPS, France - When the glossy food magazines do stories on trui-fies, the truffle hunter is always some backwoods matinee idol with a scraggly but not too-scraggly beard, a thick sweater tucked into perfectly worn cor-duroy trousers held up with a bit of frayed twisted rope, and Wellingtons just like the ones Prince Philip wears at Balmoral. Readers swoon on cue, subscriptions are hungrily renewed, and everybody is happy. But they won't find their prototype truffle hunter in

In Provence, on the fringes of the Aups truffle market 125 kilometers (80 miles) west of Antibes on the Mediterranean coast, the hunter with whom the fast-rising chef Clement Bruno is closing a 18-kilogram (40-pound) off-the-books deal looks like a wild man. He looks like he has never slept anywhere except under the stars. He wears sneakers, unlaced, and no socks. The rest of his outfit is just as absurd if it is meant in any way to deal with the cold, at this moment killer. He has no beard, just a pale sickly complexion remarkable for someone whose work keeps him outdoors in the meridional sun and mistral. You don't want to know

This is the Provençal truffle world, or rather the Provençal truffle underworld. "The Aups market is theater, folklore — real business is done beforehand," suiffs Bruno, who says he serves more of the tuber - 1,000 kilos a year — than any restaurant on the planet. His friend and fan, Paul Bocuse, calls him

The Truffle Emperor. "The milieu of the truffle is very confidential," says Bruno, whose open-armed style of cooking and wildly successful formula of a single 270-franc (about \$49) menu has drawn top chefs from around the country, from Alain Ducasse to Georges Blanc. Bruno adds that between buyers and sellers of truffles, "things are said without being said, if you see

what I mean."

A writer of children's stories and former owner of five real estate agencies here in the Var, Bruno, 45, is a self-taught cook whose home and eponymous restaurant are squeezed into a late-18th-century curate's house in Lorgues, just south of Anns. When he opened 10 years ago he canceled hunch whenever there were too few reservations — being able to pay the electricity bill was definitely not worth letting people see how bad business was. At 6 foot 5 inches (1.95 meters) and 330 pounds (the latest edition of the Gault-Millan guide cheats him out of 22 pounds), he is described rather accurately and touchingly on his own menu as a "tranquil ogre."

With a peasant-stock supplier like the hunt-er with no socks, Bruno has a many-layered rapport that underscored his mission to democratize one of the costliest and most universally longed-for foodstuffs. "Whatever an elitist is, I am the opposite. A road builder or hunter at my table is just as important to me as a government minister — and I get all three," he says. "While the road builder is always dazzled by what you put before him, the minister can be blast. Anyway, ministers are not the clientele I prefer — always in a rush."

Greedy restaurateurs with their eye on the till have always used truffles as a tool to jack prices up to the heavens. A lone coin of truffle or a sprinkling of matchsticks on a dumb salad of no interest is a salad for which

you can easily pay, in francs, three digits.

Bruno is out to blow his colleagues' cover.

This winter one of his set means includes an aperitif and a first course of fresh tagliatelle. made with three eggs for every pound of floar, and boiled in water in which truffles have been thawed (In the absence of just-dug truffles, Bruno recommends frozen vacuu packed ones; sterilizing turns them rubbery, he says.) Mounded with scallops of fresh lobster and, from the farmers' market at the Lorgues, banched Jerusalem artichokes and control of the says. sauteed parsnips, the noodles are sauced with a giddily excessive combination of thick truf-fle-and-cepes "cream," lobster stock mount-ed with butter and seasoned with fragrant Guerande sea salt, virgin olive oil from the neighboring Gervasoni mill, and Tuber me-lanosporum from Aups in both sticks and crumbs for textural interest. Before the dish is raced from its holding station it is showered with a final, extravagant Parmeson de truffe. In other words, truffies are grated over it the way cheese is grated over pasta in plainer, not

to mention poorer, kitchens.

Bruno also cooks with T. mag white truffle from Alba in Italy, as well as the native T. aestinum. Tuber snobs reserve their lowest regard for the latter but only mycologists balk when he sends out a whole one, encased with foie gras and smoked bacon in flaky pastry, to follow the tagliatelle. As a third course, local, freshly bagged pheasant are browned, stewed with chestunts, lardons and a chiffonade of cabbage, then moistened with their own truffle-laced stock. First-timers chez Bruno tend not to expect to find fungus in their vanilla ice cream, the creme brûlee, the caramel sauce accompanying the apple tart, and in the crepe batter and filling. But by the time they leave they are smiling believers in the chef's philosophy that everything in philosophy is double with truffles and all for the price of a meal in a flashy fish

OW does he do it? In early December Bruno paid \$66 per pound for unbrushed T. melano sponen from his friend who is not a picture postcard. At Christmas, as the truffles increased in ripeness, he paid \$100. Now, as the season comes to a close, he is paying \$145. These are more or less the prices available to everyone. But Bruno simply takes a lower markup, without holding his customers hostage for something he knows they would be willing to pay more for. The other thing that keeps costs down, and everything tasting so fresh, is the single menu: There is no

joint down on the water you would have

trouble remembering the next morning.

stocking of ingredients.

"Cooking carries a message of love, of sentiment, of nostalgia, and when I am in the kitchen I always think of the person in the dining room who receives my message," says Brono, whose pot-au-feu is also packing them in at his new Bistro de Casino in Saint-Raphael on the coast. "I feel a moral responsibility to the people I cook for. In any case I am only an apprentice, a perpetrator of tradi-tions, an artisan who doubts himself every

Failing Down

U. S.

Directed by Joel Schumacher.

"Failing Down" plays a lot of:

tricks. It turns one man's slide

toward madness into a wickedly .

mischievous, entertaining sus-pense thriller. On one side is D-

Fens (Michael Douglas), who,

having abandoned his car,

moves across Los Angeles by

foot, leaving a trail of casually

ners, in a clothing store, on a

golf course. In pursuit are De-

tective Prendergast (Robert

Duvall) and his colleagues of

the Los Angeles Police Depart-

ment. At first with some bore-

dom, then with apprehension and horror, they follow the trail

of the man who keeps saying he

just wants to get home. "Fall-ing Down" is glizzy, casually cruel, hip and grim. It's some-

times very funny, and often

nasty in the way it manipulates

.

mangled bodies on street cor-

THE MOVIE GUIDE



Hatachi no Binetsu Directed by Ryosuke Hashi-

guchi. Japan.

Tatusro is working his way through college. By selling his body. Women, men, it makes no difference to him but men pay more. His girlfriend doesn't even suspect. Not even when she invites him home for a meal and Dad turns out to be one of his clients. It is indicative of the grace of the film that this excruciating family meal is not played for laughs, and if you miss the connection you've missed it. Ryosuke Hashiguchi in his first full-length film (the title of which might be translat-ed as "Slightly Feverish") examines the lives of his mercenary boys and girls with a dignity and affection rare in manga-mad young Japanese

At left, a scene from "Hatachi no Binetsu." cinema. Through long takes and laconic editing, he creates an adolescent world without hope but not without feeling. The director has said that Bresson is a major influence and the scrupulous attention he gives his amateur actors, his control of the self-effacing camera and his own emotional restraint makes this 16mm first film one of the most interesting of the

(Donald Richie, IHT)

Belle Epoque Directed by Fernando Trueba. Spain.

The improbable is an underlying motif throughout this period-piece comedy centered on a handsome young man visiting a country home with four beautiful daughters. Except, strangely, for a few minutes of the truly unbelievable at the beginning and the end, the film is a wellpaced romp through the best of biting, sophisticated Spanish

humor. Love, the church, high society and politics all get roast-ed. As Spain moves toward becoming a republic in early 1931, a young army deserter (Jorge Sanz) stumbles upon the spacious rural home of a clever elderly painter (Fernando Fer-nán Gómez). When the artist's daughters arrive for a visit, the young man becomes a sometimes swift, sometimes reluctant fox in a benhouse, depending on which razor-sharp daughter is involved at the moment. One daughter is a flirt (Maribel Verdú) who sows confusion for the new guest and her bungling village suitor (Gabino Diego). The youngest (Penclope Cruz) demonstrates for her second consecutive film (also in "Jamon, Jamon") that she has mastered the heart-of-gold role. The acting is marvelously deep right through the supporting roles. Even when the comedy goes over the top, the sheer fun

one's darkest feelings. of it all makes it acceptable. (Vincent Canby, NYT) Al Goodman, IHT)



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Christopher Petkanas is the author of "At Home in France," a book about eating and escertaining in private French homes.



Air Pass: For Big Savings, Don't Leave Home Without It

EEISURE

By Roger Collis International Revold Tribune

LYING around North and South America, South Africa, Australasia, India, and even Europe, has never been cheaper—cheaper that is for overseas visitors who have had the foresight to purchase an air pass before they left home. They are rewarded with the best bargains in air travel

For example, the normal round-trip coach fare Chicago-Los Angeles-Dallas-New York-Chicago is \$1,823. Traveling on an American Antines air pass you'll pay \$327. With a Delta air pass you can travel Washington-Atlanta-Dallas-Miami for \$349 instead of the normal fare of \$1,040.

Air passes originated in the United States following deregulation in 1978. Over the

Frequent Traveler

years, the variety of options worldwide has increased enormously and rules have been relaxed, which makes them a viable option for business travelers.

All of the major U.S. and Canadian carriers offer air passes for travel on their domestic networks. If you plan to visit more than three cities within North America on business or pleasure, an air pass can save you as much as 70 percent on the regular coach (economy) fares.

North American air passes are only sold to overseas visitors possessing a round-trip ticket on scheduled flights and must be bought before leaving home. Most airlines require you to fly either with them or a

national airline of the country you start from in order to buy their air passes. You may have to pay a supplement of \$100 or so if you fly in with a foreign carrier. The big no-no is that you cannot fly another U. S. airline.

Typically, an air pass is valid for 60 days from the time you start to use it. You normally buy it in the form of coupons, one for each segment of your itinerary. Sometimes each connecting flight counts as one coupon. With most air passes there is a minimum of two or three and a maximum of 10 coupons. You must specify your itinerary in advance but only the first sector needs to be prebooked; you can leave flights open and change the date and time of travel. You may be able to change your routing for a penalty of around \$25 to \$50.

Choosing an air pass is a matter of deciding which airline best serves the cities on your itinerary, the hubs you prefer to use or avoid, and the gateway for entering and leaving. You can't go far wrong with the air s of United, Delta, American, and Northwest because of their extensive net-works. Prices are much the same: three coupons will cost you about \$300. Expect to pay \$75 for each additional coupon.

A good way to combine economy with flexibility is the unlimited passes marketed by Delta and Northwest. These are on a standby basis, but allow you unlimited travel for a fixed number of days. Delta's 30 and 60 days standby passes cost \$449 and \$749. Northwest's 30-day standby is \$499 and allows you virtually unlimited travel in the U. S. and Canada.

Some U.S. carriers offer sidetrips to Hawaii, Mexico, Alaska or the Caribbean. For example, American charges \$225 for flights to Hawaii and \$160 for Mexico. Northwest offers Alaska (from Seattle) for \$325 and Hawaii (from Los Angeles) for \$375. USAir markets a good value Florida/Bahamas pass (allowing flights within Florida and between Florida and the Bahamas) costing \$129 for two, \$179 for three and \$229 for four cou-

Aerolineas Argentinas sells a four-coupon air pass for \$359 allowing up to 30 days of domestic travel. You can buy a maximum of eight coupons costing \$459. Varig has a similar deal for travel in Brazil. A minimum five coupons is \$440 and you can buy up to nine additional coupons at \$100 each. Varig has teamed up with Aerolineas Argentinas to offer the Mercosur air pass which covers over 70 cities in the two countries as well as points in Paraguay and Uniguay. The cost depends on distance.

Air passes offer major savings in Australia and New Zealand. Qantas and Australian Airways market a joint pass. Two coupons cost from 370 Australian dollars (\$257), depending on the sectors and you can buy up to eight additional coupons for 140 Australian dollars each. Fly Sydney-Brisbane for 120 Australian dollars, a saving of around 50 percent, with the Australian Airlines air pass. You can buy as many coupons as you wish, and save 25 to 50 percent on normal fares. International travelers with Air New Zealand can buy its three-coupon pass at 399 New Zealand dollars (\$208). Eight flights

costs 920 New Zealand dollars.

South African Airways sells a four-to eight-coupon African Explorer pass, valid for one month, which can save up to 60 percent on SAA domestic and regional flights to Mauritius, Zambia, Zimbabwe,

Namibia and Kenya. A journey starting, for example, in Johannesburg to Harare, Durban, and Cape Town costs 1,327 rand (\$423) with the air pass, compared with the normal fare of 1,969 rand.

Fly any carrier into India and you qualify for Indian Airlines' unlimited travel pass. This is valid for 21 days and costs \$400. The only condition is that you can only make one stopover in each city.

Air passes are starting to emerge in Europe as airlines learn how to compete with the new climate of liberalization. SAS markets a Visit Scandinavia air pass for domestic flights in Denmark, Sweden and Norway. plus international flights to all three countries. It is also valid in on Linjeflyg domestic flights in Sweden and Danair in Denmark. It is available to residents of some European countries. In Britain, for example, you can buy one coupon for £50 and two for £100. Additional coupons (maximum six) cost £40 each. You must fly SAS to the region. British Airways markets a pass for domes-

tic travel in Britain in countries outside Europe and Israel. You can buy three to 12 coupons costing £39 each (£49 if you fly through London).

A month ago, Air France, Air Inter, Sabena, and CSA Czechoslovak Airlines, started jointly marketing a Euro Flyer pass to residents of North and Central America, South America, Africa (except North Africa) Australia, Hong Kong, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia. The pass enables you to fly whenever you wish in economy class on all of the European routes of the four airlines for \$120 per flight sector. You can buy up to nine coupons that are valid for stays of seven to 60 days. You must purchase the pass with a round-trip to France, Belgium or the Czech Republic with a participating carrier.

DOSTS

Avoid Short Flights

Don't waste coupons on short sectors like New York-Boston. You'll get best value by flying distances like New York-San

Check Eligibility Conditions

Do check whether you must fly an airline all the way from your city of origin to qualify for its air pass. As a rule you can fly a national carrier but not, for example, a competing U. S. airline.

Mostly Economy Class

Don't forget air passes are mostly for coach (economy). Northwest allows you to upgrade to first class.

Hub Connections

Do check whether connecting through a hub, if there's no direct flight, counts as one or two coupons. For example, USAir allows you fly New York-Charlotte-Miami

By Israel Shenker

EVEY, Switzerland - Near the entrance to the Alimentarium, a food museum on the shores of Lake Geneva, stands the figure of a fabulous beast symbolic of animal food and worthy of the witches' brew in "Macbeth" — head of chicken, flank of sheep, body of cow, rump of pig, fins of fish. More down to earth is the museum garden outside, host not to flowers and shrubs but to herbs and vegetables.

Inside, the exuberance of nature is tamed into a series of exhibits displayed with ingenious skill. On three bright floors, filled with glass and white space, visitors can savor the pleasures of imaginative pedagogy.

Beyond the glassed-in entrance the first of

three permanent exhibits, "From the Sun to the Consumer," portrays the flow of energy and matter through the food chain. The next exhibit, "Their Daily Bread," examines the habits of peoples widely separated, demon-strating how radically their diets differ. The third exhibit, "Food in the Past," shows how food has developed from its primitive beginnings, with displays of tools and techniques marking the progression.

The Alimentarium, in this resort town,

was dreamed up by the Nestle company's management in the early 1980s. A foundation bankrolled by the company runs the

Food for Thought in Swiss Museum

the University of Neuchâtel to a Cameroon village to bring back material on millet, to the Philippines (rice), to the Peruvian Andes (potatoes and corn) and to Turkey (wheat). Their Daily Bread" displays sample huts and rooms from these four corners of the world. Authenticity is guaranteed — except that the peanuts in the Cameroon hut proved so tempting that they had to be glued down.

One might also be tempted by the computer analyzing body weight in the introductory exhibit, where you can key in the requested information (occupation, height, exercise habits) and see how you measure up.

Nearby, visitors are invited to test their sense of smell at the aroma table by dipping a slip of paper into a numbered slot and guessing which food provided the aroma. Near scenes of banqueting displayed in

"Food in the Past," are earphones on which visitors can hear actors impersonating cele-brated chefs, including Marie Antoine Car-eme (1784-1833) and Anguste Escoffier (1847-1935).

Careme: "My taste is very sure ... and you have to admit I'm very gifted." Escoffier boasts that he uses only natural ingredients.
In most of its exhibits, the museum aims at Before the Alimentarium opened in 1985, neutrality. One display advises that "Alcoholthe museum dispatched ethnologists from ic beverages are both foods and drugs." Another, coming perilcusty close to partisanship, suggests that "It's not chocolate that should

be avoided but an excess of chocolate." Recently, a display in the basement featured a chocolate-making machine with a capacity of 20 kilograms, or about 44 pounds. The machine has a roller that moves back and forth in a vat of milk chocolate, smoothing and blending and aerating. From molds into which the chocolate was poured, visitors were offered samples. Until the museum took countermeasures, curious children routinely dipped exploratory fingers into the cocoa butter. They like to see with their fingers," said the museum's administrator, Monique Riedel.

In "The Sun to the Consumer," children can step inside a giant open mouth, perch on white stools disguised as teeth — 12 upper, 12 lower — and view a film entitled "King Alphonse's Teeth," in which a talking rabbit advises His Gluttonous Majesty to adopt a health diet, brush the royal choppers after every meal and see the court dentist twice a

exhibit in "Food in the Past"—about four inches (10 centimeters) long and less than two inches wide — is the world's oldest surviving staff of life, a bread roll from an Egyptian tomb dating to at least 2200 B. C. The minuscule treasure, looking like a burnt Little Mac caparisoned with a green pan-cake, is celebrated in the Guinness Book of Records. It has honey inside, and perhaps milk, with sesame seeds topside.

The museum flaunts not only farm machinery and tools but a clockwork mechanism (this is, after all, Switzerland) for a hand-forged turnspit. Other exhibits include wood stoves, gas and electric ranges, pastry wheels, devices for stuffing sausages, butter molds and milk sterilizers. There are even baby bottles from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, from primitive to highest tech.

In photographs and on well-laden tables there are scenes of plenty; other exhibits illustrate poverty. One graphic display in "Food in the Past" documents the drop in workers' buying power during the crisis

years of 1816-17, when the number of bread loaves a Vevey day-laborer could buy for his family fell from nine to three. Even for classless societies there is food for thought, With model cows and people, the museum illustrates how 2.5 acres (a hectare) of wheat can feed 20 people or two cows.

The chateau housing the Alimentarium, erected at the end of World War I, was once the headquarters of the Nestle and Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Company, which moved to a modern glass colossus not far away. The interior of the château was all but gutted during its transformation into a space suitable for a museum. In front of the museum. isolated from its gastronomic splendors, stands a statue of Charlie Chaplin, in-tramp's guise erected in memory of the actor who lived near Vevey.

The Alimentarium receives about 50,000

visitors annually, a third of them schoolchildren. The entry fee is \$3.30, about \$2 for children. The museum includes not only photographs of cafés but also a genuine

Israel Shenker, a former New York Times correspondent who travels frequently to Switzerland, wrote this for the Times.

AND THE PROPERTY AND ADDRESS.

THE ARTS

AUSTRIA

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sains Down

Kunsthistorisches Museum (tel: 52.177). To June 27: "Die Weit der Maye." More than 300 objects explore the world of the Mayas spanning Belize, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Antwerp
Koninklijk Museum voor Schone
(tel: 236.78,09). To March 7: "De
Bruegel a Rubens: L'Ecole de Peinture Anversoise, 1550-1650." One
hundred and fifty works by local artists throughout the century.

BRITAIN

Birmingham
Ikon Gailery (tel: 643.0708). To
April 3: "In Fusion: New European
Art." A display of paintings, sculptures, photomedia, installation and
performance art by 11 young, contemporary artists. temporary artists.

by six women.
The South Bank Centre (tel: 921.0886). To March 14: "Gravity and Grace: The Changing Condition of Sesioture." Explores the period of Sculpture." Explores the period from 1965 to 1975. Such artists as Joseph Beuys, Barry Flannigan, Mario Merz and Michelangelo Pistoletto are represented.

CANADA

National Gallery of Canada (tel: 990.19.85). To May 9: "Mary Cassatt." Ten of the artist's color prints, along with works by some of her

Art Galliery of Ontario (tel: 977.04.14). To April 25: "Caricatures." A light-hearted exhibit which displays 29 new acquisitions of humorous, satirical and illustrative graphs art graphic art.

THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Prague

Museum of Applied Arts (tal: 57.73.05). To March 30: "Borek Sipek — The Nearness of the Far Architecture: Design." Furniture, glassware, ceramics and drawings by the Czech designer.

FRANCE



JAPAN

Casterio di Fravoli (161; 958.7256). To April 25: "Torino e l'Arie." An exhibition on Turin's role in contemporary culture and art between 1950 and 1970.

Sogo Museum of Art (tel: 465.2361). To March 28: "European Baroque Painting From the National Museum in Warsaw." More than 100 oils and stetiches from 16-18th cen-

tury artists such as Rubens, Van

donesia and Nepal executed be-tween the 2d and 17th centuries.

Dyck and Panini."

Barcelona

NETHERLANDS

by the French contemporary artist.
Grand Palais (tel: 47.22.20.42). To
March 8: "SAGA." The yearly art fair
for galleries showing graphics and
other works in multiple editions. To
March 8: "Le Dessin de Collection."
More than 30 galleries display their
finest 16th-to 18th-century drawings
and skotches.

Musée d'Art Modern (tel: 47,23,61,27). To March 14: "Expressionnisme en Allemagne: "Expressionnisme en Allemagne: 1905-14." More than 400 paintings, wood engravings, acrylics, drawings and sculptures by German Expres-sionist artists. Included are works by Kandinsky, Kirchner, Klee and

GERMANY

Startiche Museen (tel: 266.2629).
To May 31: "Die Etrusker und Europa." As part of an effort to promote cultural exchange in the European community, this exhibit of European Etruscan art is on loan from the European Autrinoal collection. French National collection.

The trish Museum of Modern Art (tel: 718.686). To April 18: "Marie Foley: Sculpture." Foley's pieces comprised of tound objects, porcelain, bog cak and slate, explore human spirituality and ancient cultures.

Isère

Musée Jean Vinay (tel:
78.36.40.68). To May 31: "Jules
78.36.40.68). To May 31: "Jules
Flandrin." A retrospective incuding
more than 300 peintings by the classical artist.

Paris
Centre Georges Pompidou (tel:
44.78.12.33). To May 2: "Bernard
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Nationalmuseum (tel: 6664250). To April 12: "Munch and Carriere: Two Symbolist Printmakers." Forty prints by the Norwegian and French

sek: 'Quelconque.' " The Yugoslavi-an-born artist superimposes bees-wax and pigment to form a sort of indeterminate landscape in time and

SWITZERLAND

Martigny
Fondation Pierre Gianadda (tel: 22.39.78). To June 10: "Retrospective Jean Dubuffet, 1901-85." More than 150 works in various mediums

UNITED STATES

High Museum of Art (tel: 577.6940). To May 30: "Raiph Eugene Meatyard: An American Visionary." A retrospective featuring 125 black-and-white photos.

Houston
Museum of Fine Arts (tel: 528.1361).To April 18: "The Ancient Americas: Art from Sacred Landscapes." The most wide-ranging exhibition of Pre-Columbian art ever netd in the U.S. Explores the world view of 13 Pre-Columbian cutures through art, architecture and landscape, with 300 objects.

The J. Paul Getty Museum (tel: 459.76.11). To May 9: "Central European Drawings of the 16th and 17th Centuries." Features drawings by German, Swiss and Czech artists. Included are works by Lucas Cranach, Deniel Lindtmayer and Karei Strette Himeji
Himeji City Museum of Art (tel: 92.22.22.88). To April 1: "Pictures, Stories and Poems." More than 60 pictures pertaining to subjects found in literary works, including Picasso's etchings for a Balzac novel and Ma-tisse's etchings for a collection of

American Craft Museum (tel: 956.3535). To March 28: Nancy Crow: Work in Transition." More than 30 works by the contemporary quilt-maker, including one-block, bow fie, nontraditional dyed fabrics and sur-face design. To March 28: "John McQueen: The Language of Contain-The National Museum of Modern Art (tel: 761.4111). To April 18: "Craft works From All Over the World." Included are more than 500 ment." Thirty-nine works by the con-temporary basket weaver. articles including pottery, glass, dyed textiles and jeweiry.

> The Corcoran Gallery of Art (tel: 638.3211). To April 4: "Africa Explores: 20th-Century African Art." More than 100 objects from 15 countries that the state of t tries in a variety of different media. includes painting, sculpture, ceram-

National Museum of American Art (tel: 357.2247). To March 29: "Fau-na and Figures: The World According Groninger Museum (tel: 183.343). To April 25: "Mirror of East Asian Art from the Rijkemuseum Amsterdam." Works from China, Japan, India, Into David Beck." Stx miniaturized mixed-media constructions which lend a humoristic overtone to the artist's presentation of narrative situa-

National Museum of American His tory (tel: 357.3129). To March 28:
"Hidden Americas." Sixty photographs document the lifestyle and graphs document the lifestyle and culture of Gypsies in the United States between the 1930s and the Fundació Joan Miró (tel: States 329.19.08). To March 21: "Mitja Tu- 1950s.

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Boeing Says Boom Is Coming In Aircraft Sales and Air Travel

By Lawrence M. Fisher

New York Times Service

SAN FRANCISCO — Boeing Co. said Thursday that it expected world air travel, and demand for new airplanes, to recover from the industry's current slump, resulting in substan-

industry's current shump, resulting in substantial growth by the end of the decade.

The Boeing 1993 Current Market Outlook, released Thursday, predicts that worldwide passenger travel will grow at an average annual rate of 5.4 percent through 2010. As a result, at least 12,000 commercial airliners will be needed over the next 18 years to accommodate growth and replace older airplanes. Boeing estimated the value of the 12,000

aircraft at about \$815 billion in 1993 dollars, averaging \$45 billion a year, compared with sales of \$21 billion annually for the past 20 years. Its estimate did not represent a significant change from its projections of a year ago.

Boeing's optimistic outlook comes after two months in which it announced plans to scale back production of all of its commercial aircraft and to eliminate 28,000 jobs over the next 18 months. Boeing said the cuts were necessary because of orders that had been canceled or delayed orders by airlines hit by the global

ard R. Albrecht, executive vice president of the Boeing Commercial Airplane Group, said that

atter an overall traffic decline in 1991. mproved during 1992.

"However, especially in the case of the domestic carriers," he said, "some of this growth came at the expense of yield," or revenue per passenger mile, because of the recession and compenitive fare-cutting by airlines.

Boeing's overall forecast "remains plausible," said Wolfgang Demisch, an analyst with UBS Securities. But, he said: "The principal uncertainty remains: Does the global trade and investment framework remain as dependent on

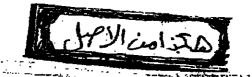
investment framework remain as dependent on global transportation in the next 20 years as in the last 20 years? The airlines, at least right

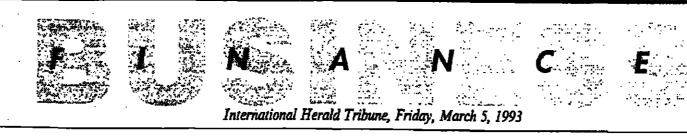
the last 20 years? The airlines, at least right now, are in fact fairly close to break-even, and it wouldn't take too much to put them into the black, and perhaps exuberantly so."

Boeing said the Asia/Pacific region, especially China, would see the highest growth rates in the near future. Japan and China respectively are the second and third largest aircraft markets after the United States. "This highlights the importance to Roeing of maintaining favorable." trade relations with Japan and most-favored-nation status for China," Mr. Albrecht said. For Boeing to capture a significant share of future aircraft sales, it will have to remain

competitive with Airbus Industrie, the Europe

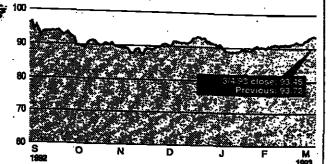
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International Herald Tribune World Stock Index e, composed of 230 internationally investable stocks from 20 countries, compiled by Bloomberg Business News. Jan. 1, 1992 = 100.



The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in: Tokyo, New York, London, and Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. In the case of Tokyo, New York and London, the Index is composed of the 20 top issues in terms of market capitalization. In the remaining 17 countries, the ten top stocks are tracked.

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nance	89.05	89.19	-0.16	Consumer Goods .	86.65	87.03	-0.44
			-0.87	Miccellaneous	99.78	99.58	+0.22

WALL STREET WATCH

AmEx's Ousted Leader Got a Lot, Wants More

By Jon Friedman Bloombere Business News

EW YORK - The battle between James D. Robinson 3d and the board of American Express Co. over the embittered former chairman's compensation package is developing into a high-stakes game of poker. Each side holds hole cards that could damage the other's business reputation.

Mr. Robinson, who had been chairman and chief executive since 1977, was forced out by the board on Feb. 22 after the company suffered a number of scandals and financial debacles on his watch. Mr. Robinson's parting compensation package includes \$730,000 a year in retirement benefits, \$1.1 million in severance pay and \$2.8

million in deferred compensation over the next two to three years, provided he does not lure James D. Robinson away American Express can sought a plethora of

ployees or customers.

Jim got what he was entitled to - but not a penny more," said one former American Ex- severance package. press executive. The severance

pay is based on American Ex-

perks in his

pay is based on American Express's formula of awarding 60 weeks of base salary to an employee who has worked there for at least 12 years.

Sources inside American Express said Mr. Robinson hoped to receive a plethora of perks, including an executive assistant and access to American Express's fleet of jets. He wanted a three-year consulting position with the company. The man who once dubbed himself the "chief quality officer" also sought company backing to endow a chair at the Harvard business school to teach that subject.

Feaful of class-action lawsnits from shareholders, the board Fearful of class-action lawsnits from shareholders, the board rebuffed Mr. Robinson. And it told him he must vacate his lavish

company-owned apartment next door to the Minseum of Modern Art.
Still, the board has reason not to leave Mr. Robinson too embittered. If he chooses to press his side of the story, he has top advisers at hand: His wife, Linda Gosden Robinson, heads Robinson, Lake & Co., a big public-relations firm, and has ties to reporters at major newspapers and magazines. "But Jim would be better off if he kept quiet," said one former American Express executive. "He is holding a weak hand."

Indeed, PR cannot cover up American Express's disappointing performance under Mr. Robinson. Its earnings were erratic, and its stock has languished in the low \$20s for several years.

Barclays Loss Brings Dividend Cut

LONDON - Barclays Bank, brought low

by £2.54 billion (\$3.68 billion) of bad debts in 1992, reported Thursday its first full-year pretax loss since it was incorporated nearly a Century ago.
What shocked the market, however, was

not Barclays' £242 million loss as much as the cut in its dividend. Calling it an "extraordinary decision," Nick Gough, an analyst with Nat West Securities, said, "it reflects how extraordinarily bad things were and how uncer-tain they are looking forward."

The news was doubly odd given a growing optimism here that Britain's often-pro-

claimed recovery has at last taken hold.

In an unusually fractious news conference, Barclays executives found themselves put on the defensive. Pointing out that this marked the second year in which the bank has had to dip into its reserves to pay its dividend, Peter Wood, its finance director, said the decision to lop 6 pence off the interim dividend of 12 pence a share was "a difficult decision felt to be in the best long-run interests of the

Andrew Buxton, executive chairman, began his remarks by promising to halve his own job. He said that even though the bank had a history of one person serving simultaneously as chairman and chief executive, under pressure from the bank's largest holders he would break that tradition and split up the job. "It is neither practical nor right to take

both responsibilities," said Mr. Buxton, who had first hinted at such a move in December.

Mr. Buxton refused, however, to be pinned down as to when the bank would announce a new top executive or whether the search was on for a new chief executive or chairman. Analysts said that the board should look beyond its own ranks for new people.

One analyst described the bank's senior management as "tainted" by the specter of its massive loan losses. "Management is all in the dock together on this," said Chris Ellerton, an analyst with Warburg Securities, who said shareholders would look for an outsider to come in and shake things up.

Many analysts traced the bank's probler to its 1988 rights issue that brought it £920 million of fresh cash right at the top of the economic cycle. That infusion enabled the bank to greatly expand its loan book, particularly its lending to property and construction

In Britain, where the bank has £3,3 billion worth of nonperforming loans of £1 million or more apiece, 55 percent of them are to property or construction companies. Imry, a property concern that went into receivership last year, accounted by itself for £240 million of the bank's increase in bad-debt provisions.

Mr. Buxton, who has held the top post for less than a year, referred to the bank's debt problems as something that came "out of the past." Although he was its managing director and a board member previously, he insisted, of the bank in that period."

Barclays executives say they expect baddebt provisions to decline this year, allowing the bank to return to profit. But Mark Rorison, an analyst with Nikko Securities, said Barclays would have to make a profit of more than £600 million to raise its dividend again and he and some other analysis expect the bank to post pretax earnings of only around £400 million a year from now. That would still be well below last year's depressed profit of £533 million, and far from the £1.4 billion profit Barclays posted in 1988.

Britain's biggest bank, meanwhile, is ex-pected to suffer this year from the deepening economic slump on the Continent. Its operations in both France and Germany had losses last year. Mr. Buxton conceded that Barclays may have overpaid for its banks in both countries. "I suspect the price would have been lower if we bought them today," he said.

Had it not been for bad debts, 1992 would have been a good year for Barclays; its operating profit rose 18 percent, to £2.4 billion, partly from its success in cutting costs. Its British operations started 1993 with 6,400 fewer staff members and 189 fewer branches It expects to shutter a further 350 of its 2,300 branches over the next two years.

In common with other big British banks, Barclays also profited from last autumn's turmoil in the currency markets, as its earnings on foreign-exchange transactions rose by £70 million.

off stock values.

December when Chinese threats

market cuphoria, analysts said.

billion in the reserves fund.

verts to Chinese rule.

Mr. Madeod estimated there would be 78.4 billion Hong Kong dollars, or about \$10 billion, in the

colony's reserves by the time it re-

"China has no cause for com-

Salomon Loss **Underlines Risk** In Rate Decline

By Michael Quint New York Time: Service

NEW YORK — Salomon Brothers said Thursday it had a loss of \$250 million in the first two months late in securities, currencies and of the year, a reminder that firms commodities, as well as various futhat earn big profits on speculative tures and options contracts. trading also run the risk of compa-

The loss at Salomon - widely regarded as the biggest, boldest months did not include the possible trader in the bond market — is a complete loss of Salomon's investsignal that some Wall Street firms have had trouble profiting from the big decline in interest rates this year. carried on Salomon's books at \$86
Traders who expected prices to remillion, has been jeopardized by main stable or to decline have lost heavily as Treasury bond prices rose nearly 10 points, or \$100 for each did not include a \$65 million charge \$1,000 bond, while yields fell from to be taken this quarter for future nearly 7.5 percent in early January pension and retirement obligations. to 6.72 percent now.

"I expect other firms have had losses due to the drop in rates," said Perrin Long, an analyst at First of Michigan Corp. He noted, however, that few firms come close to matching the trading size of Sal-omon, which had \$159 billion of assets at the end of last year.

The company said that trading for its own account, rather than on behalf of its customers, was responsible for the loss. It declined to explain how the loss occurred, what

when it became apparent.
On Feb. 16, when Salomon issued \$200 million of preferred against the colony wiped billions Forecasts of surging profits for major companies and the spending stock, it did not warn investors about any large loss in the current quarter. Robert Baker, a spokesplans in the 1993 budget added to man for Salomon, declined to say The talks broke down in October after the governor of Hong Kong, Chris Patten, introduced a political whether the extent of the loss was known on Feb. 16, though he did say, "if we thought there was some-thing that needed disclosing, we would have disclosed it.

reform package to increase the fran-chise of directly elected seats in the Hong Kong legislature before 1997. "Right now the priority on both Although Salomon Brothers has spent years trying to expand into sides is moving in the direction of corporate finance and investment negotiations, not creating road-blocks," said William Overbolt, banking, it is still known primarily as a trading firm. Trading profit in 1992, a year in which the company managing director of Bankers Trust in Hong Kong. Analysts believe the real issue is earned \$550 million, was robust enough to indicate that the firm how much Britain leaves in Hong had recovered from its Treasury Kong's kitty when China takes charge in 1997. Beijing has said there has to be a minimum \$25 auction scandal. Salomon paid \$290 million last year to settle charges arising from improper bid-

ding at Treasury bond auctions. News of the two-month loss was surprising enough that Salomon's stock fell \$1.75 Thursday to close at \$39.75 on the New York Stock Exchange. Because the loss was not oneh to threaten the credi

The loss was blamed on "proprietary trading," a risky but often profitable activity in which Salomon uses its own money to specu-

Donald Howard, Salomon's chief financial officer, told analysts that the \$250 million loss for the first two months did not include the possible ment in the White Nights oil project in western Siberia. That investment

Russian tax policies

Firms Face Stiffer Rules In Russia

MOSCOW - Foreign companies operating in Russia may soon lose a number of benefits. according to a report Thursday

by the Interfax news agency.
Enterprises with foreign capital, particularly those involved in the export of natural resources, stand to lose licensing and tax privileges if recomby Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin become law.

The Committee of the Congress of People's Deputies has recommended that foreign exporters should be subject to the same customs conditions as Russian enterprises. This would mean the withdrawal of export tax concessions that have been granted to several oil-producing joint ventures.

Separately, James Berg, the acting president of the Over-seas Private Investment Corp., a U.S. agency that insures American investments overseas, said at a Senate hearing on Wednesday that the odds of a major political crisis in Russia in the next six months were increasing.

(Reuters, Knight-Ridder)

China Mutes Criticism of Hong Kong

HONG KONG — China made massive spending program on Center at Hong Kong Polytechnic. only a low-key protest on Thursday over Hong Kong's announcement clean up Hong Kong's polluted that it would run a series of deficit harbor, as well as to build a major one reason for China's meaning that it would run a series of deficit harbor, as well as to build a major one reason for China's meaning that it would run a series of deficit harbor, as well as to build a major one reason for China's meaning that it would run a series of deficit harbor, as well as to build a major one reason for China's meaning that it would run a series of deficit harbor, as well as to build a major one reason for China's meaning that it would run a series of deficit harbor, as well as to build a major one reason for China's meaning that it would run a series of deficit harbor, as well as to build a major one reason for China's meaning that it would run a series of deficit harbor, as well as to build a major one reason for China's meaning that it would run a series of deficit harbor, as well as to build a major one reason for China's meaning that it would run a series of deficit harbor, as well as to build a major one reason for China's meaning that it would run a series of deficit harbor, as well as to build a major one reason for China's meaning that the run of the reason for the run of budgets between now and 1997, when the territory reverts to Chi-

"We hope that the Hong Kong British government will stick to its British government will stick to its

Hong Kong dollar (\$435 million)

trying to restart ne

deficit for the fiscal year ending

march 31, 1994. Last year, Hong

kong had a 20.5 billion dollar sur
relations between ic prosperity and smooth transfer," the spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry, Li Jianying, said at a surplus by the end of the year, weekly briefing in Beijing.

"China could see the deficit budget as a conspiracy," said Thomas

tary, Hamish Macleod, offered a Chan, head of the China Business highway to China, a new hospital, and an extension to Hong Kong's

plus. Mr. Macleod said the deficit

French Contracts Frozen

In Retaliation by Beijing

PARIS - China has frozen some 2 billion francs (\$363 million) of

telecommunications contracts in retaliation for France's sale of

state-of-the art fighter planes to Taiwan, a spokesman for Alcatel-

CIT said Thursday.

"These contracts, which should have been signed at the end of

1992, are suspended, we do not know for how long," the spokesman for the telecommunications concern said. Alcatel specializes in

Beijing has threatened on a number of occasions that it would retaliate against Paris after four French companies signed a deal to provide Taiwan with 60 Mirage 2000-5 fighters, worth 21 billion

Until now, sanctions had consisted of the closing of the French

consulate in Guangzhou, but observers now fear other French

and Electricité de France.

However, the Alcatel-CIT spokesman added that other contracts with regional Chinese authorities had not been affected by the

Beijing move.
Alcatel-CIT fears the freeze could mean it will lose out to its rivals, notably American Telephone & Telegraph Corp., Siemens AG and LM Ericsson AB. Last week, AT&T signed contracts with Taiwan

The China market is particularly incrative and competitive given

the country's marked desire to step up its improvement of its

companies could suffer the wrath of the Chinese leadership. Other French companies with big projects in China include an aluminum works by Pechiney SA, an underground-rail network planned by Matra SA and a nuclear power station by GEC-Alsthom

exchanges for telecommunications networks.

francs, in November.

the scenes between Britain and Convention and Exhibition Center. China that have been going on for Mr. Macleod forecast a 3.4 billion several weeks. Both sides have been trying to restart negotiations on the

In fact, the prospect of a thaw in relations between Britain and China helped Hong Kong stocks soar was modest and could even become to record levels on Thursday.

sured response may be talks behind

The blue-chip Hang Seng index ended at a record 6,467.80, up from 6,436.64 on Wednesday and some

Mainland Firm Buys Control of Laws Property

Laws shares jumped nearly 30 percent, to 3.35 Hong Kong dollars (43 U.S. cents), from 2.60 dollars when they were last traded on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. The shares had been suspended from trading on Monday, pending the announcement of the takeover.

Wednesday, is seen by analysts as the latest back-door listing on the Hong Kong exchange by a major mainland-owned entity. A compa-ny controlled by China National Nonferrous Metals Industry Corp. is making the bid, which values Law at 938 million dollars. In the last six months there have

HONG KONG - Shares in Laws Property Holdings soared Thursday following the amouncement that a company controlled by a major China-based corporation was buying 67.7 percent of the Hong Hong Kong. (Reuters, Bloomberg)

China has no cause for controlled to large enough to infraction ratings of the firm, however, the preferred stock issued in February was unchanged at \$25.25 a share. Kong-fisted real estate concern.

The transaction, which was annonnced by the companies late

been at least six similar takeovers by Chinese-controlled concerns of

Virgin Refuses to Take Silence Vow

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispotches

LONDON — Virgin Atlantic

Airways is willing to accept £9 million (\$13 million) in compensation from British Airways PLC for a dirty tricks campaign, but the smaller airline refused Thursday to keep quiet about it.

Court in response to allegations by Virgin of poaching passengers, between us is, they are trying to gag Richard." Mr. Whitehorn said.

Mr. Whitehorn said. Virgin had been offered by BA and was now willing to accept £9 million — a smaller sum than had been previously discussed—to satisfact the discussed are to satisfact the discussed are to satisfact the discussed are satisfact to the discussi

and China in quick succession.

telecommunications network.

keep quiet about it.

Will Whitehorn, a spokesman for Virgin, said BA wanted a comminment that would prevent Virgin, especially its founder and chairman especially its founder and chairman manufactured with the said.

Smaller sum than had been previous ter Mr. Branson unreaucned to bring a court action against BA in the United States.

"The whole business is turning into a farce," an executive of Virgin and sublicky application of the united States.

Richard Branson, from ever dis- and publicly apologized out of

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976-972 9 %-9 %

cussing or mentioning the affair in court in response to allegations by

into a farce," an executive of Virgin said. "We're willing to compromise on the money, but not on the issue and the condition that goes along with the payment." He added: "Branson would nev-

er be able to make any further comment on the issue, and that is unimaginable. Imagine if he was doing an in-depth interview with Bloomberg and wasn't able to com-ment on the affair. It's ludicrous; you can't suddenly crase history." Virgin wants a "legally water-

tight agreement" that limits British Airways' ability to poach passengers, for instance by offering BA upgrades to passengers who had arrived for a flight in a limousine by Virgin, or to passengers who were flying half of their trip on BA and the other half on Virgin. Virgin also wants BA to compete

only on the basis of "quality and price of product," and is no longer demanding that BA give up any of its landing or takeoff slots at Heathrow airport, London, as part of an agreement, an executive close to the negotiations said.

Mr. Branson has made it clear that he does not intend to be silenced about the campaign, which has given the fledgling airline front-page coverage in most British national newspapers on a regular

(Reuters, Bloomberg)

FIDELITY SPECIAL GROWTH FUND

Société d'Investissement à Capital Variable Kansallis House

L-1021 Luxembourg R.C. Luxembourg B 20095

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of FIDELITY SPECIAL GROWTH FUND, a société d'investissement à capital variable organised under the laws of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg (the "Fund"), will be held at the principal office of the Fund, Kansallis House, Place de l'Etoile, Luxembourg, at 11:00 a.m. on March 25, 1993. specifically, but without limitation, for the following purposes:

Presentation of the Report of the Board of Directors.

2. Presentation of the Report of the Auditor. Approval of the balance sheet and income statement for the fiscal year ended November 30,

Discharge of the Board of Directors and the Auditor.

Election of six (6) Directors, specifically the re-election of Messrs. Edward C. Johnson 3d. Barry R. J. Bateman, Charles T. M. Collis, Charles Fraser, Jean Hamilius and H. F. van den Hoven, being all of the present Directors.

Election of the Auditor, specifically the election of Coopers & Lybrand, Luxembourg. Declaration of a cash dividend in respect of the fiscal year ended November 30, 1992. Proposal, recommended by the Board of Directors, to amend Article 16 of the Fund's Articles of Incorporation to delete the specific limitations in the nature of investment safeguards

set forth therein and to substitute more general language, in order that all of the Fund's investment safeguards may be determined by the Board of Directors in its discretion, subject to the requirements of Luxembourg law and regulation. Copies of Article 16 as proposed to be amended may be obtained from the Fund at its registered office in Luxembourg and are being mailed to all registered shareholders with this Notice of Meeting. Proposal, recommended by the Board of Directors, to amend the Fund's Investment Manage-

ment Agreement with Fidelity International Limited ("FIL") by adding a new Section 16 to specify the basis on which FIL, as Investment Manager, may delegate, with the Board's consent. FIL's responsibilities in respect of portfolio management for the Fund, and to amend Section 10 of the Agreement to state the responsibility of FIL for such delegee's actions pursuant to such delegation. Copies of Sections 10 and 16 as proposed to be amended may be obtained from the Fund at its registered office in Luxembourg and are being mailed to all registered shareholders with this Notice of Meeting.

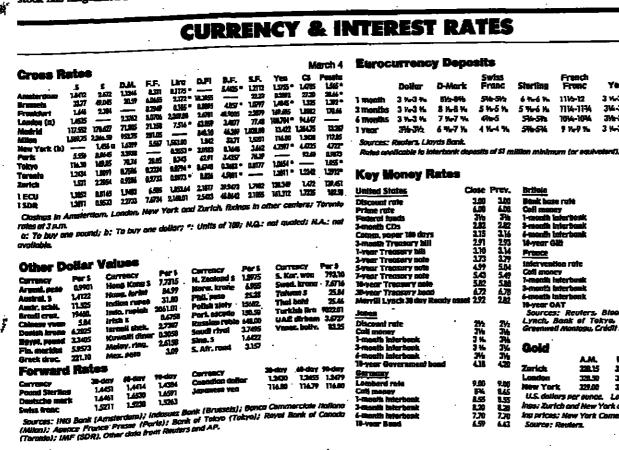
10. Consideration of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Approval of items 1 through 7 of the agenda will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present or represented at the Meeting with no minimum number of shares present or represented in order for a quorum to be present. Approval of item 8 of the Agenda will require the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the shares present or represented at the Meeting at which a majority of the outstanding shares must be present or represented; if a quorum is not present, then at the adjournment session of the Meeting, approval of item 8 shall require the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the shares present or represented at the Meeting with no minimum number of shares present or represented for a quorum. Approval of item 9 of the Agenda, including at any adjourned session of the Meeting, will require to affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present or represented at the Meeting at which a majority of the outstanding shares are present or represented. Subject to the limitations imposed by the Articles of Incorporation of the Fund with regard to ownership of shares which constitute in the aggregate more than three percent (3 %) of the outstanding shares of the Fund, each share is entitled to one vote. A shareholder may act at any meeting by proxy.

Dated: February 18, 1993

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS





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STOCK SPLIT Home Depot Inc — 4 for 3 Lowers Title Co — 3 for 2 Media Logic Inc — 2 for 1 Miners Nati Brico — 5 for 4

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Stocks End Lower On Poor U.S. Data

NEW YORK — Sobering news on the U.S. economy pushed stock prices modestly lower on the New York Stock Exchange on Thurs-day, yet record-low Treasury bond yields averted a plunge in the equity market.
"It wasn't much of a sell-off,"

after two days of gains, said Dale

N.Y. Stocks

Tills, manager of institutional equities trading at Charles Schwab. "We need a few more days like this to work off the overbought condition. Stocks are still a great place for your money to go, the way bonds continue to rally."

The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 5.13 points to 3,398.91, led by Aluminum Co. of America and by Aliminum Co. of America and Philip Morris Cos. Among broad market indexes, the Standard & Poor's 500 Index eased 1.92 to 447.34, and the Nasdaq Combined Composite Index went down 3.20

"The economic recovery is not

very robust," said Robert Stovall. president of Stovall/Twenty-First Advisers. "All week, we've seen signs that the first quarter will not

Declining stocks outnumbered advancers by 8 to 7 on the New York Stock Exchange. Trading was sluggish by recent standards, with about 230 million shares changing hands. The slowdown in turnover reflected investor reluctance to risk big positions before Friday's employment report for February, traders said.

tax would raise the federal excise tax on cigarettes to \$1 a pack from the current 24 cents. Philip Morris fell 1 1/4 to 65 3/8, and RJR slipped 3/8 to 8 3/8, after rising earlier this week on plans to issue a new class of stock tied to RJR's food business.

MARKET: Bond Yields Tumble

(Continued from page 1)

straight day as the news raised expectations of lower interest rates. Bonds have rallied because of continued low inflation and because of expectations that President Clinton's plan to cut spending and raise taxes will slow the economy. government's key barometer of fu-

"There's a growing expectation

Foreign Exchange that the next move is more likely to be an easing" of credit instead of a tightening, said Terrence Pigott, a trader at Daiwa Securities Ameri-

ca. "People are jumping on the eas-ing bandwagon," he said. Economists were particularly worried about Thursday's jobs claims numbers because fewer new jobs would curb consumers' incomes and constrain the vigor of the recovery, which has been driven

by consumer spending. "At the very least, it suggests we're still not seeing any significant job growth," said Fred Leiner, mar-ket strategist at Continental Bank.

The news from U.S. retailers, which reported February sales figures on Thursday, also does not suggest much for the economy, said Mary Rooney, an economist at S.G. Warburg & Co. Wal-Mart Stores Inc., for example, said samestore sales in February were un-

"This suggests we're going to do see a weak retail sales number next week," Ms. Rooney said, "There's a good chance it may even be nega-

Thursday's numbers were the

show the rate of growth of the fourth quarter," he said.

Tobacco stocks continued to slump after Prudential Securities lowered its rating on Philip Morris and RJR Nabisco to "hold" from "buy." On Wednesday, two congressmen introduced legislation that would raise the federal excise

On Monday, the National Association of Purchasing Management said its index showed that manufacturing is still expanding, but at a slower rate. On Wednesday, sales of new homes posted their largest decline in 11 years while the index of leading economic indicators, the

ture growth, posted a slim 0.1 per-cent gain for January. "I think the economy is still growing," said Mr. Leiner of Conti-nental Bank. "It's just not growing as fast as it was a couple of months

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

■ German Rates Unchanged The dollar fell Thursday after the German central bank left key interest rates unchanged at its biweekly policy meeting, Bloomberg Business News reported from New York.

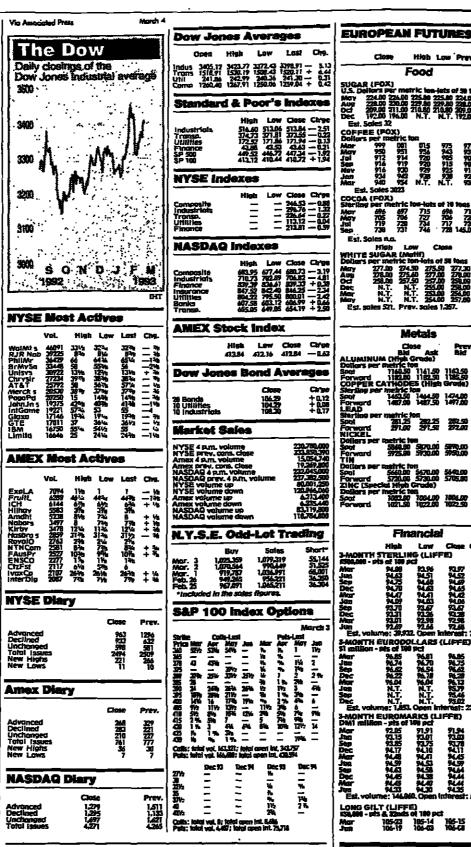
"The lack of a rate cut from the Bundesbank was a disappointment," said Albert Soria, foreignexchange manager at the Finnish bank Kansallis Osake Pankki. In New York, the currency was

quoted at 1.6399 DM, down from l.6454 on Wednesday, and at 16.80 year, up from 116.685. The dollar ended at 1.5201 Swiss francs, down from 1.5228, and at 5.567 French francs, down from

The German discount rate remains at 8.0 percent and the Lombard rate is at 9.0 percent.

5.5835. The pound firmed to \$1.456

Germany's partners in the Group of Seven leading industrial countries have made no secret of the fact they would welco



Oil Prices Hit 4-Month High

NEW YORK — Petroleum prices finished at their highest levels since late October on Thursday. Buying intensified after sellers did not try to take profits from the rally, analysts said.

Light sweet crude oil for delivery in April settled at \$21,07 a barrel, up 59 cents, on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The last time oil had finished above \$21.00 was Oct. 28, at \$21.12.

Analysts and brokers said there was little fundamental or supply-andvs affecting the market. They said that once co

Pepsi Invests \$750 Million in Mexico

NEW YORK (NYT) — The global expansion of American cola companies gathered pace as Pepsi-Cola International said Thursday it would invest \$750 million over the next five years in its operations in Mexico.

The announcement came eight days after Coca-Cola Co., the world leader in carbonated beverages, said it would spend \$150 million over the same period for new or existing tacilities in China.

Pepsi's investment in Mexico is designed to bring Pepsi products into regions they have not reached or samrated, including three in which Pepsi intends to spend \$115 million in joint ventures as the first phase of the expansion — Guadalajara, Monterrey and the Mexico City subarbs of Toluca and Tlanepantla. They three areas reflect a combined population of nearly 6.6 million people. | Night Low Class Chappe | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105-72 | 105

of nearly 6.6 million people.

In each area, Pepsi will become an equity partner in the local bottling operation, which effectively gives Pepsi personnel influence in marketing, advertising and distribution strategies.

Mulford Will Head CS First Boston

NEW YORK (Bloomberg) — David C. Mulford, the former undersec-retary of the Treasury and vice chairman of First Boston Corp., will be named chairman and chief executive of First Boston's parent, Credit

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des 46.75 , Prov. soles 31.226 , othered 10.132 Suisse-First Boston, at year-end.

He will succeed Hans-Joerg Rudloff, who will join Credit Suisse First

Boston's board, the banking company said Thursday.

Mr. Mulford is already deputy chairman of CS First Boston. In addition to becoming chief executive of the overall organization, he will also become president and chief executive of Financière Credit Suisse First Boston, making him responsible for the international holding company's operations in Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

SCI to Cede Control to Perelman

NEW YORK (AP) — SCI Television Inc. sought protection Thursday under federal bankruptcy laws and said it had already reached agreement with key creditors on a plan that would give control to the financier Ronald O. Perelman.

Mr. Perelman, who controls Revion Inc., would get a 52 percent stake in SCI in exchange for a \$100 million investment in the company, which crumbled under the weight of nearly \$1.3 billion in debt.

It would be Mr. Perelman's first foray into broadcasting and he is

It would be Mr. Pereiman's first foray into broadcasting and he is reportedly already examining possible alliances with other large station groups on obtaining programming and selling advertising.

SCI said in its prepackaged Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing in Wilmington that its bank lenders and a majority of its unsecured debtholders had agreed to terms of the reorganization.

Philip Morris Rules Out Cadbury Bid

NEW YORK (AFX) - A spokesman for Philip Morris Cos. said Thursday that the purchase of the British chocolate manufacturer Terry's means the U.S. company is not at present looking to buy Cadbury-Schweppes PLC.

"We never officially comment on market rumors for obvious reasons,

we never omerany comment on market rumors for obvious reasons, but if a deal to buy Cadbury-Schweppes was in the works, we would not have bought Terry's," the spokesman said.

Before Wednesday's announcement of the Terry's purchase, for £220 million (\$319 million) in cash, it had been rumored that Philip Morris might be interested in buying Cadbury-Schweppes.

U.S. Upholds Steel Dumping Duties

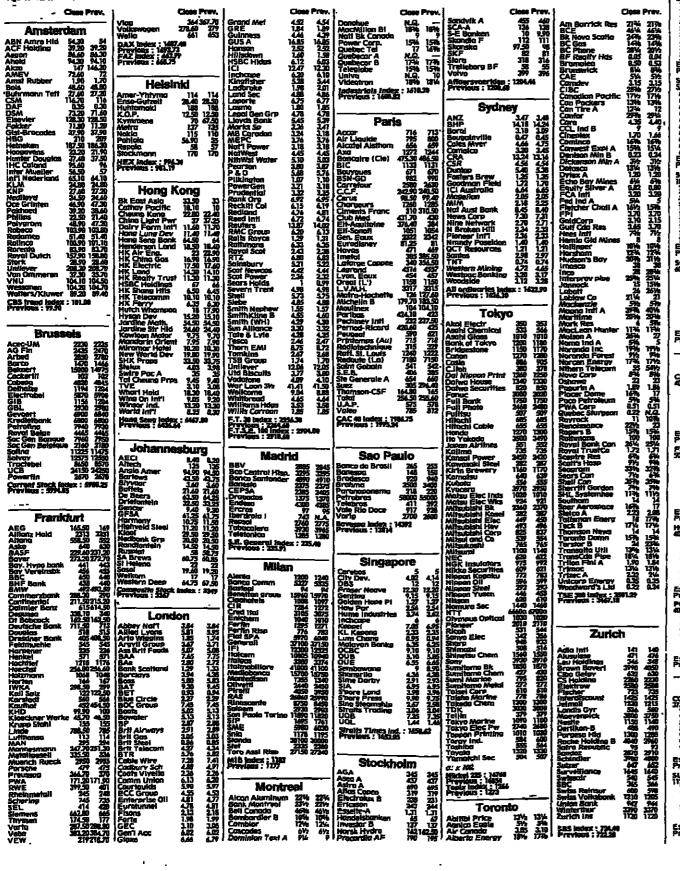
WASHINGTON (Knight-Ridder) — The U.S. International Trade Commission, in a final ruling, voted unanimously Thursday to impose duties on subsidized steel-product imports from Britsin, Brazil, France and Germany that it says are harming the U.S. steel industry.

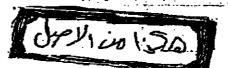
The decision covers certain hot-rolled lead and bismuth carbon steel products made in the four countries and sold in the United States at less than fair value the TVC soid.

than fair value, the ITC said. The ITC began its investigation in November 1992, after petitions were filed by Inland Steel Industries Inc. and the Bar, Rod & Wire Division of Bethlehem Steel Corp.

U.S. FUTURES

Grains	COCOA (NYCSCE) 10 metric tons-3 per ton	9455 9071 Jun 1458 Fran 1458 1451 +67
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Bull's Loss Deepens **Amid Market Crisis**

By Roger Cohen

New York Times Service PARIS — Underlining the European computer industry crisis, the French state-owned Compagnie des Machines Bull announced Thursday a 1992 net loss of 4.72

billion francs (\$850 million).

The result for Bull, in which International Business Machines Corp. took a 5.7 percent stake last year, was markedly worse than its 1991 loss of 3.3 billion francs.

The 1992 loss included a special provision of 2.4 billion francs. More than half of this sum will be spent to cover restructuring costs, including probable layoffs this year of about 3,000 of the company's 35,000 emyers. Bull has already out 3,500

his over the past three years. Sales last year fell 9.8 percent over 1991, to 30.19 billion france. The company said one-third of the decline in sales was due to currency fluctuations.

The results were in line with the general slump in the European

Paris and Rome To Fund SGS Research Effort

PARIS - The French and Italian governments will each contribute 2.55 billion francs (\$459 million) to a 9.43 billion franc research and development program that SGS-Thomson Microelectronics BV will carry out up to 1996, the French trade and industry minister, Dominique Stranss-

Kahn, said Thursday. The French-Italian chipmaker should also soon receive from the two governments the first installment of a previously agreed upon capital increase, he said.

France and Italy agreed in November to plough \$1 billion in fresh capital into the chipmaker and to support its research and development.

In 1992, both governments made a first payment of 450 million trancs for research and development and should pay over the next few days \$250 million each in the first stage of the capital increase, Mr. Strauss-Kahn said.

"Its a matter of days," he were initially due in December. including Olivetti of Italy and Sie-mens-Nixdorf of Germany have faced substantial losses recently in the face of stiff competition, plunging prices for personal computers and a European recession.

de low KAD

Business is bad almost everywhere in the computer industry, and the Bull results are hardly surprising," said Mary Tonnaire, an analyst at Dataquest in Paris. The price war will continue into 1993, and the winners will be those, like Compaq, who can adjust most quickly."

While Bull's recently appointed chief executive, Bernard Pache, and other executives underlined the fact that the company had narrowed its operating loss in 1992 to the equivalent of \$121 million, from \$205 million the previous year, the results were clearly a disappointment. Bull which owns Zenith Data Systems in the United States, had planned to achieve break-even on its operations

The company's chief financial officer, Jacques Lebhar, described current market conditions as "simply terrible," and said prices for microcomputers had fallen 50 per-

cent last year in Europe.

He declined to set a new target for Bull to break even on its current operations. But he said the company had opted to make heavy provisions this year in order to improve its future results, and said the net loss in 1993 would be much lower.

Bull last made a profit in 1988. The company has been the object of endless strategic wrangling as the country's socialist government has wrestled with how best to safeguard its future. Never, however, has the French state's commitment to possessing its own computer industry wavered and huge amounts of public money have been injected into the company, most recently a payment of 2.5 billion francs.

Philips Recovery Hopes Fade Flat Sales Foreseen After Big 1992 Loss

By Barbara Smit Special to the Herald Tribune

EINDHOVEN, Netherlands - Hopes for an early recovery for Philips Electronics NV grew dimmer Thursday after the company posted a loss of 900 million guilders (\$486.7 million) for 1992 in contrast to profit of 1.1 billion guilders in 1991. Income from operations, at nearly 2.5 billion

guilders, was down 21 percent from the previous year. This excluded provisions for a fresh restruc-turing plan, which will cost about 1.2 billion guilders and eliminate between 10,000 and 15,000 jobs. mainly in the consumer-electronics and related components areas and its Grundig affiliate. Sales rose 3 percent, to 58.5 billion guilders from

57 billion guilders in 1991. But Jan Timmer, the company's president, called the results "disappointing" and said they were mainly due to a major price erosion in the consumer-electronics sector and unfavorable exchange rates. He said selling prices for consumer-electronic products fell an average of 6 percent last year.

Operations at the consumer-electronics division before restructuring charges, showed a loss of 553 million guilders. For the third consecutive year, the company said it would not pay a dividend.

The results were roughly in line with market expectations, partly because some figures had been leaked to the Dutch newspaper Het Financiecle Dagblad. Philips shares rose 1.10 guilders in Amsterdam on Thursday, closing at 22.50 guilders.

Philips predicted flat sales this year, and Mr. Timmer said he believed the cutbacks would help improve overall results by the end of the year. However, he declined to estimate group income for 1993, saying results would depend primarily on price movements in consumer electronics.

Analysts welcomed the restructuring plan, which could cut wage costs by I billion guilders, but some said it might not be enough.

"Philips is still very unfocused. It still gives the impression that it wants to be present in virtually all areas of high technology," said Andrew Has-kins, Philips analyst at James Capel.

Some analysts said Philips could post a slight profit this year. Philip van den Berg, analyst at Goldman Sachs, said: "Market conditions are liketo remain very difficult in Europe for the first half of this year, especially in Germany, but this will be partly offset by improvements in the United States. Results should gradually pick up in the

DSM Expects Difficulties to Persist

Bloomberg Business News

HEERLEN, Netherlands DSM NV, the Dutch chemicals company, said Thursday it expected the deteriorating market situation seen in the fourth quar-

ter of 1992 to drag on. The company said it was unclear how long the present diffi-cult conditions would last. In the meantime, there will not be any significant changes in the market situation compared with the fourth quarter of 1992," it said. In that quarter, DSM recorded its only loss for the year. Includ-

ing one-time items, the fourthquarter net loss was 39 million guilders (\$21.2 million).

The company said it expected 1993 first-half results to be "considerably lower" than in the corresponding period of 1992 but it declined to make a forecast for the whole year.

The company blamed a 57 percent earnings drop in 1992 on overcapacity in the petrochemicals sector, the recession in Western Europe, cheap imports from Eastern Europe and the strength of the guilder.

The situation in Germany is a particular worry to DSM, said the chairman, Hans van Liemt. He said economic forecasts for 1992 and 1993 had all proved to

be too optimistic. Despite the grim outlook, DSM is confident it can weather the bad times. It plans to concentrate on core activities in the coming years.

Its strategy involves shedding 3,000 of its 22,400 strong work force worldwide by 1994. Most of the jobs will go in the southern Dutch province of Limburg, where DSM has its headquarters.

Steel Firms In Germany **Cut Further**

Germany's largest steel concern, Thyssen Stahl AG, said Thursday it was closing several plants and cutting 4,500 jobs, while at the rival Krupp group an estimated 20,000 workers downed tools to protest planned job cuts there.

The job losses at Thyssen Stahl are expected to be only the first of what could be 7,000 or more job cuts by the end of the decade, the Dursburg-based company said in a statement that gave "high overcapacity in Europe" as the reason.

In Essen, the chairman of Fried. Krupp AG Hoesch-Krupp, Gerhard Cromme, told striking workers he could not rule out layoffs resulting from plant closures and 2 reorganization of the group's un-profitable steel division.

He was jeered by around 2,000 workers who had gathered at a steel plant to protest job cuts and a planned closing of a blast furnace. About 20,000 workers at Krupp started a 24-hour wildcat strike Thursday morning.

Separately, about 1,600 East German metalworkers staged wildcat strikes in Brandenburg state to protest the industry's cancellation of wage contracts that had provided for a 26 percent wage increase.

German companies have traditionally relied on attrition and of-fers of early retirement to reduce • Heineken NV reported a rise in 19 Cromme, at Krupp, said there were no longer enough workers close to

retirement age to make the neces-sary cuts without layoffs. The German steel industry expects as many as 40,000 jobs to be

lost in the next three years.

BBL's Profit and Payout Fall

BRUSSELS - Banque Bruxelles Lambert SA, Belgium's second-largest bank, reported a lower profit and cut its dividend Thursday and said it was making large provisions against losses on its international operations.

But the chairman of BBL's executive committee forecast a strong

profit recovery this year.
"We should almost double our profit if the Belgian economy is sound and if the international economy recovers slightly," Daniel Cardon de Lichtbuer said.

because it has changed its financial year-end to Dec. 31 from Sept. 30, more than 21 percent. Within Euhad 1991-92 consolidated net profrope, France was far behind Gerit of 3.60 billion francs (\$106.6 million), down 35.8 percent from the many with less than 15 percent of

The bank made write-downs and debt provisions totaling 21.3 billion francs, compared with 12.2 billion francs a year earlier, and it cut its net dividend to 100 francs a share from 140 francs. BRL said the write-downs and provisions covered all its known potential loan losses as of the end of 1992.

previous year on an annual basis.

BBL shares rose 90 francs to 3,390 francs in active trading on the BBL, reporting 15-month figures Brussels exchange.

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EAST: Germany Is Powering an Industrial Rebirth cades of Ostpolitik, Germany is the

In Hungary, where the United States has been the biggest inves-tor, and in Poland, where Italy with the huge \$2 billion commitment by Fiat SpA —is taking over for now as the investment leader, Germany nonetheless remains the single largest trading partner of both countries. With the intimate knowledge and personal contacts built up by German business through historic tradition and de-

Sts Dtv Yki PE 100s High Low/Latest Ch'98

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chief contributor of modern industrial technology and the major Western trading partner of every European country in what was once the Soviet empire.

Within Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union as a whole, German business accounts for about 35 percent of the total foreign investment so far.

Just as that long-time business interest in Eastern Europe is ready to start paying off, however, Germany is confronting a stark dilem-ma. Mired in recession, faced with a serious underlying competitiveness problem and bogged down in the swamp of reunification, German industry cannot easily afford the investment needs of Eastern Europe. But it cannot afford to

ignore them, either. In the longer run, the low-cost, man industries plagued by rising costs, rigid rules, and lagging Western markets. For the immediate future, however, political leaders in Germany fear that any strong shift in basic manufacturing to Eastern Europe will simply mean lost jobs

This is already starting to happen. Late last year, for example, VW's luxury division, Audi AG, canceled a proposed engine plant in Eastern Germany—where labor costs are rising rapidly toward Western levels—in favor of building one in Hungary.

Volkswagen, in announcing de-tails last month of its plan to eliminate 36,000 jobs over the next two to three years across its worldwide operations, disclosed that the 17,000-employee Skoda operation in the Czech Republic would emerge unscathed from the cut-

Meanwhile, many German com-panies, fearful of the recession, are simply withdrawing into their shell. "Eastern Enrope is Germany's new frontier," said Ulrich Ramm, chief economist for Commerzbank in Frankfurt. "But the downturn in Germany makes it difficult to justify almost any new expansion at the moment. So while investment outside Germany is continuing it is at a sleep of the state of the comment. So while investment outside Germany is continuing it is at a sleep of the comment. a slower pace. Companies are most worried about the problems of just

That may not be so easy. VW's Skoda plant highlights the challenge posed to basic Western industries as Eastern Europe moves to a market economy. Labor rates at the Mlada Boleslav factory, for instance, are as little as one-fifteenth the gross compensation to German workers in Wolfsburg, and about one-tenth the cost of labor in Spain. The average worker on the assembly line, of which about 40 percent are women, takes home about \$200 a month, while highly trained engineers are paid an average of \$300 a month

Despite the wide disparity in wage rates, there is no similar gap in capability. "The workers in my country are as good as they are in Germany," boasted Karel Dyba, the Czech minister of economics. "And probably better than the workers in Spain.

True or not, Skoda employees are at least being given the tools to compete with similarly run auto factories in Western Europe. While far from the standards of the best flexible, or "lean," production plants in Japan and the United States, productivity at the Skoda factory jumped by at least 20 per-cent after VW did little more than simply clean up the factory floor and wash the windows. It is expected to continue rising by more than 10 percent annually, according to VW's Volkhard Köhler, vice chairman of the Skoda board.

At Skoda, the workers and their trade union also offer what is often missing in affluent Germany these days: a willingness to put in some-

thing extra. "Saturday work is no problem here," said Mr. Köhler. "Last year, we had 22 special shifts."

Volkswagen is planning to invest as much as \$5.5 billion in the Czech Republic in the 1990s to bring Skoda along as its fourth, least-expensive line - joining Audi, VW, and

The VW-Skoda deal, along with a wave of other German business accords, raised early fears in the Czech Republic that Germany was seeking to dominate the economy. While resentment is still strong there has been no active backlash thus far against German invest-

"We Czechs are very sensitive well-educated work forces of the about German arrogance because East are a potential savior to Gerof our past experience," a Skoda manager said. "But so far we have

had no problems with VW." The Czech prime minister, Vaclav Klaus, a strong free-market advocate and the most powerful political leader in the country, also expresses little concern about the

Regardless of any latent fears, most analysts believe German eco-nomic influence will inevitably pervade the Czech Republic, particu-larly because the varied metalbending industries of the country mesh so well with Germany's tradi-

tional business interests.
The Czech Republic is likely to accelerate its direct foreign investment inflow now that Western investors realize that the Czechs are free of Slovak economic burdens and troubles and that dominant German economic and political influence in Bohemia and Moravia is virtually guaranteed," argued a re-cent report from PlanEcon, a Washington-based economic research firm that specializes in East-ern Europe and the former Soviet

Investor's Europe Frenkfurt London Paris **CAC 40** FTSE 100 Index 2100-1300 O'NOJEM 1500 O'N D J F M Exchange index Thursday Prev. Change Close Close **CBS** Trend Amsterdam 161.00 99.90 +1.10 5,994,05 -0.23 Brussels 5.980.25 Frankfurt 1,693.73 -0.37 Frankfurt Helsinki 996.34 981.19 +1.54 London 2,256,30 2,284.60 -0,37 London FTSE 100 2,918,60 Madrid 235.40 235.91 -0.22 General Index

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Very briefly:

Stockholm

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CAC 40

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Stock Index

• Alcatel-Alsthom's chairman, Pierre Suard, said Alcatel might take a stake in France Telecom if the state-owned company were privatized. • Berkeley Group PLC plans to raise £44.1 million (\$64 million) in a onefor-four rights offering at 295 pence per ordinary share.

• Ireland's finance minister, Bertie Ahern, said he did not intend to dispose of the Irish government's entire 30.4 percent stake in the food

• Heineken NV reported a rise in 1992 net profit to 564 million guilders their work forces. But Mr. (\$305 million), from 443 million guilders a year earlier.

Robeco NV said it would propose a 1992 dividend of 3.52 guilders.

unchanged from 1991. • Kemira Oy reported a 1992 pretax loss before appropriations of 338 million markkaa (\$56.4 million), compared with a loss of 522 million

markkaa a year earlier. Spanish chemical-industry unions will stage a strike at all Ercros SA plants from March 17 to 23, union officials said.

Outokumpu Oy reported a 1992 loss after financial items of 454 million markkaa, compared with a 1991 loss of 716 million markkaa.

Svenskt Staal AB, the Swedish steel manufacturer, reported a loss after net financial items of 165 million kronor (\$21.4 million) for 1992, compared with a profit of 218 million kronor in 1991.

• Ladbroke Group PLC said a £146.7 million real estate provision sent pretax profit tumbling to £40.1 million in 1992 from £210.4 million the year before.

AFX, Bloomberg, Renders

Hoechst Denies Cancer Risk

FRANKFURT — Hoechst AG said Thursday a toxic substance that escaped from its Frankfurt plant and blanketed a suburb with a sticky yellow film had not caused any increased cancer risk. Wolfgang Hilger, management board chairman at the German chemical concern, said a series of human errors was to blame for the Feb. 22 leak, and he promised improved safety measures.

"We can tell you there is no augmented risk of cancer," he said.

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People at the top read the Trib.

No local bias. No national slant. No partisan viewpoint. Simply a balanced editing of the news

for people with a stake in international affair-

Herald Eribune

NOTICE TO THE SHAREHOLDERS

DAIWA CAPITAL - L.C.F. EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD INTERNATIONAL EQUITY FUND

20, Boulevard Emmanuel Servais L-2535 LUXEMBOURG R.C. B 28616

Notice is bereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the shareholders of DAIWA CAPITAL -L.C.F. EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD INTERNATIONAL EQUITY FUND will be held at the registered office of the company on March 15th, 1993 at 12:00 a.m.

- 1. Approval of the report of the Board of Directors and the report of the Auditor.
- 2. Approval of the financial statements for the year ended December 31st, 1992;
- Discharge to the outgoing Directors in respect of the carrying out of their duties for the year ended December 31st, 1992;
- Re-election of the Directors for a new statutory term except Mr. Telsuo MORISHIGE and Mr.
- Ratification of the appointments of Mr. Akiyoshi OTANI in replacement of Mr. Telsuo MORISHIGE and Mrs. Anne de la VALLEE PUUSSIN in replacement of Mr Ken GRAHAM;
- Appointments of Mr. Patrick La FOSSE and Mr. Geoffroy LINARD de CUERTECHIN as
- Resolutions on the above-mentionned agenda will require no quorum and the resolutions will be passed at a simple majority of the shares present or represented at the meeting.

A sharcholder may act at any meeting by proxy.

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Matra Seeks to Block Ford-VW Plant

BRUSSELS — Matra-Hachette SA said Thursday that it had lodged a complaint with the European Court of Justice over the EC Commission's approval of a joint venture be-tween Volkswagen AG and Ford Motor Co. to build a car plant in Portugal.

The French holding company, which is the inventor and maker of the Renault Espace minivan, said that it had filed a complaint 10 days ago to the Luxembourg-based Court of First Instance because the commission's decision in December was "excessively favorable"

to Ford-Volkswagen.

The commission approved the joint venture because it said it would favor job creation, boost technological innovation, and help new entrants onto the market, which is currently

The Portuguese plant will have the capacity

to produce 190,000 minivans annually when it

opens in 1996.

Matra-Hachette is objecting because 190,000 vehicles would give Ford-Volkswagen around 50 percent of the European market by 1996, the

Last year 100,000 minivans were sold in Europe, 65,000 of which were the Renault Espace model. The director general of Matra-Hachette, Frédèric D'Allest, told journalists at a news conference that his company expected demand rise to 400,000 by 1996.

The complaint is the second Matra-Hachette has made to the European Court of Justice, the EC's highest legal authority, relating to the Ford-Volkswagen plant. The court is set to rule before April 28 on a complaint over an earlier EC decision to grant 750 million E us (\$885 million) of regional aid to the plant.

"The plant won't produce more than 5,000

jobs," said Mr. D'Allest. He compared the money granted for the Ford-Volkswagen plant with the proposed 240 million Ecus of EC regional aid to cushion the effects of planned restructuring in Europe's steel industry, where between 50,000 and 100,000 jobs could be lost.

He also pointed to mass layoffs planned by both Ford in Britain and Volkswagen in Germany. "Is it really reasonable to sacrifice mil-lions of Ecu for the new Ford-Volkswagen plant when those same companies are shedding thousands of jobs elsewhere in Europe?" Mr.

He said that Matra-Hachette had developed a third generation of Renault Espace minivans to be launched when the company saw fit.

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Profitable Brierley Is to Raise Funds

WELLINGTON - New Zealand's Brierley Investments Ltd. posted an improved six-month net profit on Thursday despite its depressed British hotel operations, overall profit. and then surprised the market by asking shareholders for more funds

to pay for acquisitions.

BIL, the investment company founded by Sir Ron Brierley and now run by proteges who costed him, reported a profit of 112.7 milion New Zealand dollars (\$58 million) for the six months to Dec. 31, up 24.5 percent from the year-earli-er period. BIL said it was confident

of an increased annual result, too. But BIL shares fell 9 cents to 1 that as the market reacted to the would issue one interest-bearing convertible note for every eight shares held, at 85 cents per note, to raise 270 million dollars.

me in the six months fell 60 percent to 1.1 billion dollars. Debt

Compass Goes Into Voluntary Receivership

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispotches SYDNEY — Southern Cross Airlines Holdings Ltd. said Thursday its Compass Airlines unit would go into voluntary receivership after failing to secure a rescue package of 9.2 million Australian dollars (\$6.5 million).

Southern Cross said it had sought the appointment of a receiver-manager, who would be instructed to continue commercial operations during talks with bankers to save

Trading in Southern Cross shares was suspended Wednesday at the company's request pending resolution of the financial problem.

Compass last week announced a half-year loss of 10.9 million dollars, which far exceeded the full-year loss of 7.5 million dollars forecast in the airline's prospectus.

Company officials said last week that the sirline had secured the funding package but was negotiating for an additional 10 million dollars following its half-yearly loss.
(AFX, Bloomberg)

billion a year earlier.

The chairman, Bob Matthew, said the group's operating compa-nies contributed two-thirds of the

BIL has more than 30 percent of its assets tied up in Mount Char-lotte PLC, the British hotel concern of which it owns 70 percent. Hit by Britain's recession, Mount Charlotte had a profit of just £21 mil-

lion (\$3.03 million). Earnings from all British investments, hit by the pound's devalua-tion, fell to 5 million dollars from 123 million a year carlier.

Mr. Matthew said better performance in New Zealand units reflected corporate restructuring and an improving local economy. Air New Zealand, in which Briedey holds 35 percent of the

Class A shares, has reported an 8.7 percent rise in half-year profit.
The New Zealand brewer DB Group, formerly known as Magnum Corp., returned to profit in the latest half, Brierley said. Brierley holds a 27 percent investment in DR. Briedey said investments in Australia turned to a profit of 23 mil-lion New Zealand dollars.

(Reuters, Bloomberg, AFX) News Corp. Issues Notes News Corp. announced plans Thursday for a convertible debt issue to raise between 450 million and 500 million Australian dollars (\$318 million to \$353 million), which analysts said would repre-sent a dilution of Rupert Mur-doch's 34 percent family stake in the media giant, Agence France-Presse reported from Sydney.

In the latest of a series of moves to reduce bank debt, the company said one of its subsidiaries would issue liquid yield option notes, due in 2013, exchangeable for common

June Debut In H.K. for China Firm

Bloomberg Business News HONG KONG - The first of China's state-run companies wishing to list shares in Hong Kong will probably de-but in June, the chief executive of the Hong Kong Stock Ex-change said Thursday, First to

the gate is expected to be Shanghai Petrochemical Paul Chow said at an American Chamber of Commerce hancheon that the only hold-up in listing the compan compliance with Hong Kong's

listing rules and regulations. Protection for minority hareholders has been a particular stumbling block, he said. China has no laws protecting minority shareholder rights.
Beijing said in October that nine state-run companies would be permitted to raise capital by listing in Hong Kong. But to list shares, the companies must comply with exchange disclosure rules, something they have never had

to submit to before. The "China Nine," as they are known in Hong Kong, in-clude large industrial companies from every comer of the

The debut of Chinese stocks will change the face of the col-ony's exchange, which is large-ly made up of smaller, lightindustrial companies.

The Chinese companies will provide a good mix for

investors to choose from when they look to the Hong Kong market," Mr. Chow said. "We're going to see the Hong Kong market develop hand-in-hand with China."

India to Ease Currency Rules

Reform Plan Brings Fresh Liberalization

NEW DELHI - Finance Minister Manmohan

Singh revealed Thursday that he planned further easing of exchange controls as part of his economic

In an interview with the Economic Times, published Thursday, Mr. Singh said his weekend budget was designed to consolidate a reform program that has reversed four decades of socialism and to revive industrial growth hurt by earlier cuts in spending.

Although Mr. Singh floated the rupee on Tuesday, he said other exchange controls remained. Many of these would be lifted over the next 18 months and would mean the rupes could be traded under freemarket conditions for travel abroad, the repatriation of profits by multinational companies and for trade purposes. The rupee has strengthened this week.

Mr. Singh promised further reforms, including cuts in subsidies, possible decontrol of oil prices and introduction of a labor policy, easing strict rules against firing workers that make foreign companies leery of entering the market. (Reuters, Knight-Ridder)

The Indian government has proposed broad economic measures to entice foreign investment, un-shackle the purchasing power of India's huge middle class and boost sales of Indian goods abroad. The proposals are among the most significant in an

economic liberalization process that was begun 20 months ago and that is designed to dismantle India's Soviet-style command economy and replace it with a free-market system favored by the West.

At its core, the program is designed to propel India into the global market by making it easier and cheaper for foreign companies to do business here, lowering the cost of imported raw materials and making Indianmade products more competitive.

The plan would drastically lower India's protection ist tariff rates, some of which are as high as 150 percent, and reduce excise taxes on domestic goods. "This is a very, very good step forward," said Sam Singh, president of Du Pont Far East Inc. and head of the American Business Council in Delhi.

The 'Big Bull,' Dehorned for Now

By Anil Penna

BOMBAY - Harshad Mehta, the immensely wealthy broker at the heart of India's stock-market scandal, says that all he did was to help bankers arbitrage from the modest yields of the money market to the then-spectacular returns of

Mr. Mehta, 40, was known as the "Big Bull" who moved the market almost simple handed when the said between markets "Removed the market almost simple handed when the said between markets almost simple handed when the said between the said betwee almost single-handed when he was amoney market, where there was a arrested last June. He spent 110 days in jail, charged with fraud for 15 percent whereas the returns in the his alleged part in siphoning off \$1.8 billion from the interbank money market to play the stock market.

The market boom that he helped to finel turned to bust last April, wiping billions of dollars off share values and triggering a broad revamping of the operations of major

market still has not fully recovered. In an interview, Mr. Mehta said

as 4,000 early last year. he had done nothing wrong. "All the players in the market were following the same system. We never thought it was criminal." He asserted that in India, "capital creation has always been seen to be a crime." In last year's affair, Mr. Mehta

capital market were averaging 200 to 300 percent," he said.

Investigators said his complex

Exchange's boom with longing. The Bombay index is muddling around 2,500, having been as high

After Saturday's budget announcement, including a floating rupee and tax cuts, failed to spark a rally, The Pioneer newspaper asked if Mr. Mehta's absence was paving the way for a bear hig this year.

In the interview at his seafront home in Bombay, he spoke of his

"very solid future plans, very ag-gressive and ambitious plans." "If God wills, I will reach much higher heights," he said. "But I will do, not talk. If I point a finger at someone and say I plan to do business with him, the government will come down on him."

Mr. Mehta estimates his bank liabilities from the affair at between 80 billion and 120 billion rupees (\$267 million and \$400 million), but said he had enough wealth to meet them. He has been barred from selling off assets, including an apartment complex with a vast garden, a billiards room, a mini-auditorium, a nine-hole golf Investor's Asia Singapore . Straits Times Nikkei 225 Hang Seng Traceday Exchange 6,457.50 +0,48 6,435.64 Hong Kong Heng Sang 1,858.82 1,852.05 Singapore Straits Times All Ordinaries: 1,522.90 1,626.10 Nikkei 225 18.750.81 16.853.92 Guela Lumpur Composite 903.47... Composite Stock 822.22 638.44 4,737.32 4,582.61 1,539,85 1,516.67 Composite Stock Index 304,77 300.84 1,568.10 1.588.03 New Zenland NZSE-40 1,145.40 . 1,153.90

Very briefly:

 Sales in Japan of imported motor vehicles rose 11 percent in February from a year earlier, to 14,117 units, marking the first increase in five months, the Japan Automobile Importers Association said

 Rayong Refinery Co. said it had signed a letter of intent with a consortium of Raytheon Co. and Fluor Corp. for a \$2.2 billion refinery in Thailand; Rayong is a joint venture between Royal Dutch/Shell and the state-owned Petroleum Authority of Theiland.

 NKK Corp. said its U.S. subsidiary National Steel would invest about \$130 million to upgrade blast-furnace facilities at two of its works.

· Metaligesellschaft AG has formed a joint venture with Padaena Indus Co. to set up a \$320 million lead and zinc smelter plant in Thailane secording to Padaeng, which will own 51 percent of the venture.

• Tuntex Distinct Corp. has signed a 9 billion Taiwan dollar (\$349 million) contract to explore for crude oil in China's southwestern Sichuan province, according to news reports in Taiwan.

· Toshiba Corp. said it had started selling high-speed semiconductor circuits for use in notebook-sized personal computers.

 Ssangyong Oë Refining Co., South Korea's third-largest refiner, said its net profit source 91.5 percent to 77.2 billion won (\$97 million) in 1992. The rise reflected foreign-currency gains and higher interest income since a capital injection by Aramco, the Saudi Arabian oil company, which purchased 35 percent of Ssangyong.

AFP. UPI, AP, AFX, Bloomberg

Microsoft Warns Japanese on Software Piracy

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO - Microsoft Corp., seeking to "educate" Japanese computer makers, on Thursday said it was warning them of legal action if its products are pirated.

Microsoft, the world's top maker of personal computer software, said it would notify 50 Japanese computer and software companies by letter that it may take legal action against companies that copy its software products without anthorization.

"Our goal is to educate and possibly start cleaning up the market," said Kei Morita, spokeswomen at Microsoft's Japan unit. She said it was hard to estimate the scale of piracy in Japan but Microsoft wanted to nip it in the bud.

Microsoft has decided to get tough at a time of increasing tension between Japan and the United States over high-technology fields seen

as keys to economic growth.

A Microsoft official said the company was taking the lead in highlighting a problem that concerns software companies all over the world and one that is not taken as seriously in Japan

U.S. companies regard Asian countries as lax on enforcement of computer software copyright laws.

Microsoft is the maker of MS-DOS, the world's most widely used personal-computer operating system. The company also sells

ages and has a 44 percent share of the world personal-computer software market, according to the industry analysts Dataquest Inc.

Users of Microsoft products in Japan include NEC Corp., Japan's largest maker of personal computers, and Fujitsu Ltd., the world's second largest computer manufacturer. Computer makers in Japan acknowledge that

oftware piracy is also a problem for them. But they say they may have a high-tech solution.

Pujitsu is looking at magneto-optical disk technology to provide a defense against pirates. Using the large storage space of these disks, a computer operating system as well as software could be stored on one locked disk that could not be duplicated.

Hang Seng Bank Profit Rises 26%

LONDON — HSBC Holdings PLC said Thursday that its Hang Seng Bank Ltd. unit's profit rose 26 percent, to 5.7 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$737.3 million) in 1992, from 4.5 billion dollars in 1991. Earnings per share rose to 3.83 dollars from 3.04 dollars.

The company plans a final dividend of 1.17 dollars a share and a special dividend of 27 cents a share — for a total for the year of 2 dollars a share, up from 1 dollar in 1991 - and two stock dividends totaling three new shares for every 10 shares held. Midland Bank PLC, also owned by HSBC, posted sharply higher profit Wednesday.

Ford to Buy Orbital Engines

MELBOURNE - Australia's Orbital Engine Corp. said Thursday that Ford Motor Co. had confirmed its intention to purchase its two-stroke engines from a plant in Michigan for evaluation. Orbital also said its profit for the six months to Dec. 31 fell 54 percent to 4.56 million Australian dollars (\$3.23 million).

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Hurley Sets Assist Mark As Duke Sinks Maryland

Now there's no one for Bobby

Duke's point guard supreme be-came the NCAA's all-time assist came the NCAA's all-time assist leader Wednesday night with 12 in his final home game. He also scored 19 points in a 95-79 victory the field in the first half and forced over Maryland.

His fifth assist of the game, a pass to Erik Meek with 11:02 left in the first half, gave Hurley 1,039 for and moved him past Chris Cor-chiani of North Carolina State.

"I don't think anyone thought before the game that it would be Erik," Hurley joked. "He had a high target and I was able to get him the ball. It wasn't anything that we ran. It was Erik. He wanted it, he made the play, and I just

Hurley has been the director of the Blue Devils since the first game of his freshman season, taking them to three straight national championship games and consecutive NCAA titles. He has an NCAA tournament record of 17-1 and, with Duke ranked sixth, will get a chance to improve that mark in a

couple of weeks.
"I'm glad that Bobby broke the assist record here," said the Duke coach, Mike Krzyzewski. "It's something that we all share in.

"It's kind of crazy. He's done something that no one else has done. What a neat thing to be able to coach a kid who has done something that no one else has done."

Duke (23-5, 10-5 ACC) had this one wrapped up by halftime, when it had a 53-29 lead. There was good news for the Blue Devils before the game when Grant Hill appeared in uniform for the first time since he sprained the big toe on his left foot Feb. 13. Although Hill took part in pregame warmups, he did not play for the fifth straight game.

"This has been a long stretch without Grant," Kızyzewski said. They've performed unbelievably

Especially Hurley, who has averaged 14 points and 13.8 assists -including four straight double-dou-

bles - since Hill went down. "It's something I'll always re-member," Hurley said of the record. With all the player's who've played the game, I'll be the only one who'll be able to say they're the top assist

leader - at this point anyway." Maryland (11-14, 2-13), which Lithuanian center, flips a no-look hasn't beaten Duke since 1988, was led by Kevin McLinton's 22 points.

No. 1 North Carolina 83, No. 14 that Wake Forest 65: The Tar Heels the (25-3, 13-2 ACC) carned at least a ball. share of the regular-season title for the 14th time as they beat Wake Forest at home for the 11th consective time. Eric Montross missed only one of seven shots and had 17 points as North Carolina won its first game as the No. 1 team in the country and its eighth in a row. The Tar Heels, who reached 25

victories under the coaching of Dean Smith for the 16th time, used a 19-1 run in the first half to break a slump and tragedies took their it open as they shot 61 percent from the field in the first half. Randolph Childress' 16 points

led Wake Forest (18-7, 9-6), which lost for the third time in four

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

14 turnovers on the way to a 49-32 halftime lead. Jamal Mashburn had 22 points and 13 rebounds for the Wildcats, who are one game behind Vanderbilt in the standings, each with a game to play. Joe Harvell and Kevin Watkins had 21 points each for the Rebels (9-16, 4-11). No. 8 Kansas 94, Nebraska 83: The Jayhawks (23-5, 10-3 Big

Tickets on Sale For Tournament

The Associated Press OVERLAND PARK, Kan-

sas — Ticket applications for the 1994 semifinals and final of the NCAA tournament in Charlotte, North Carolina, are now available, the NCAA said. Applications can be obtained by calling 900-646-1994, 24

hours a day, seven days a week, or by writing the NCAA at 1994 Final Four Tickets, 6201 College Boulevard, Overland Park, Kansas., 66211-2422. The telephone calls will cost \$1 for the first minute and 50 cents for each additional min-

All tickets are \$65 and are good for the semifinals April 2 and the championship game April 4.

Applications must be received by April 30. A random computerized drawing will be held in May and applicants will be notified about June 30.

kept their hopes alive for a piece of the Southeastern Conference East Division title with the victory at Eric Pauley all reached double fig-Eric Pauley all reached double fig-ures in their final home game.

Kansas, which won the title for the 41st time, led by 10 points at halftime and came up with a 13-4 run when Nebraska (19-6, 7-6) got within 57-51. Steve Woodberry led Kansas with 26 points, the most scored by a Jayhawk in two years. Eric Piatkowski had 23 points for the Combuskers. No. 19 Seton Hall 79, Boston

College 61: The Pirates (23-6, 13-4 Big East) clinched at least a share of their second straight regular-season title and improved their home record to 14-1. Terry Dehere finished with 21 points and Seton Hall took control early, taking a 37-22 halftime lead in winning its seventh straight and eighth in nine games. Howard Eisley had 15 points for the Eagles (15-10, 9-8), who lost for the fifth time in seven games. A loss to Providence in the season finale on Saturday would drop Boston College into seventh place in the

No. 13 Arkansas 88, Louisiana State 75: The Razorbacks (19-6, 10-5 SEC) wrapped up first place in the Southeastern Conference West Division in the last game at Barnhill Arena, played before an arena-record crowd of 9,660. Next sea-son, Arkansas moves into 18,000plus seat Bud Walton Arena, An 18-1 run in the first half broke it open as Arkansas took a 51-34 halftime lead. Corliss Williamson led Arkansas with 19 points, while Jamie Brandon topped the Tigers (19-9, 8-7) with 16.

No. 24 Purdue 61, Michigan State 58: The Boilermakers (18-8, 7-8 Big Ten) had to hang on to win on the road. They led 42-30 with 12 minutes to play, but Michigan State (14-10, 6-9) had two chances to tie in the final seconds. Glenn Robinson led Purdue with 18 points, while Shawn Respert



Alae Abdelnaby of the Celtics found J.R. Reid's face useful on this shot, while the Spurs again took it on the chin, 132-91, as they lost for the sixth time in eight games since winning 18 of 19.

Sabonis and Real Madrid: Ticket to Top?

MADRID — Arvidas Sabonis, record seven times. the 7-foot, 4-inch (2.24-meter) pass to Ricky Brown to set up an easy basket. It is a combination that has lifted Real Madrid back to the summit of European basket-

"Sabonis' passing game is good, he's always looking for the open man — we both look for each other season NBA player with Golden State and Atlanta. "We're a complete team now, and he is a big

Real Madrid was the powerhouse of European basketball until toll a few years ago. But thanks to Sabonis, Real is for real again.

The Spanish club is a heavy favorite to win its first Spanish league title since 1986 and also favored in the European Cap — symbolic of He led the Soviet Union to a gold the Continent's best club — which medal in the 1988 Olympics, helped

it last won in 1980 and has won a Lithuania to a bronze in 1992 and winning teams, I'd like to add Real record seven times.

Lithuania to a bronze in 1992 and winning teams, I'd like to add Real record seven times.

Madrid to it, Sabonis said. "The

"We were on the verge of returnaddition of Sabonis this year has basketball earning more than \$1 Some of the credit for Real Magiven us intimidation and defensive

sh last season after George Karl left to coach the Seattle Supersonics of the NBA. "I think we could hold our own

with six or seven of the lower eche-lon teams in the NBA," Luyk said. Most of them don't have a Sa-Sabonis was one of the world's

best big men until a serious Achil-les' tendon injury slowed him in the late 1980s. Although drafted twice by NBA teams, he opted for Europe's less demanding schedules. He led the Soviet Union to a gold

bounds this season — is reported to European Cup would go with the ing to be a very good team, but the be the only foreigner in Spanish others." million.

possible — so I can stay back on European Cup teams. His son, Serthe defensive end and not run the gio, is a 6-9 sophomore star for the floor."

If it isn't Sabonis feeding 6-9 best power forward —it's the "second line" of 6-11 Antonio Martin ish league teams — before being Fernando Romay on what must be Europe's tallest team.

drid's rebirth must go to Luyk, a rebounding we didn't have," said the Real Madrid coach, Clifford Luyk, a U.S.-born Spaniard.

"We have the best front line in Europe," said the 51-year-old Luyk, who guided Real Madrid to a rebound — we run as much as for Real Madrid and dozen seasons to the seasons as for Real Madrid and second — we run as much as for Real Madrid and dozen seasons for Real Madrid and second — we run as much as for

Real Madrid passed over Luyk Brown — probably the league's for the job several times — and he was fired twice by two weak Spanpounding the ball inside to 7-footer picked as a stop-gap when Karl

Europe's tailest team.

American 3-point ace Mark
Simpson keeps defenses from collapsing on Sabonis. The team's the Italian league leader, Knorr Boonly weakness seems to be ball- logna. The four quarterfinal winners move on to the final four April "Tve played my whole life on 13-15 in Athens.

Buckner to Coach Lowly Mavericks The Associated Press

DALLAS - The Dallas Mavericks, the team with the worst record in NBA history, on Wednesday selected Quinn Buckner as their Buckner, an analyst for NBC on

league telecasts, will be the fourth coach in the club's history. Bockner has said that his contract with the network would prevent him from taking over the job

Heard, has been told he will coach the Mavericks for the rest of the season. Heard replaced Richie Adubato, who was fired on Jan. 13. Buckner, 38, has no previous coaching experience. He played on

an college basketball champion-ship team at Indiana in 1976 and won an NBA championship as a member of the Boston Celtics in 1984. His 10-year pro career began with the Milwaukee Bucks in 1976 and ended 10 years later with the Indianapolis Pacers.

SCOREBOARD

Texas 102. Texas Christian 84
Texas 79ch 72. Texas A&M 53
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N. Artzons 84, S. Ulah 73
TOURNAMENTS BASKETBALL **NBA Standings EASTERN CONFERENCE**

HOCKEY

NHL Standings

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WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

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Major College Scores

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Auburn 78: Alchama 70
Clemson 92: N. Corolino 5
Duke 95: Maryland 79
Georgio 88: South Carolin
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TRANSACTIONS

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POOTBALL.

Netfount Pootball Lasses
ALLAM—Signed Bernord Pord, wide receiver; Cedric Smith, russing back; Chuck,
Corswell, comerback; Charles Hope, suand,
and Doug Pederson, quarterback.

NEW ENGLAND—Wolved Fred Smerics,
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CRICKET

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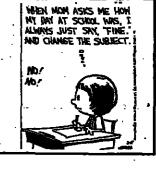
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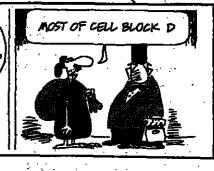












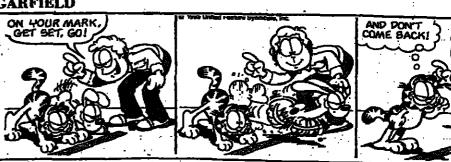
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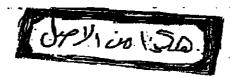






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Antwerp Foiled By Bucharest

With a first half goal by forward Gabriel Moya, Atletico Madrid got a 1-1 draw Thursday against Olympiakos Piracus in a first-leg quar-terfinal match of the European Oup Winners' Cup tournament.
That made Atlético's effort to

are more to the semifinals easier, with the second-leg match to be played in Madrid on March 18. Before a crowd of 53,000 in Athens' Olympic stadium, Atletico applied its usual forcing tactics while

Olympiakos counterattacked. In the fourth minute, Manuel Alfaro missed on a good scoring op-portunity with a shot that hit the

But six minutes later, Moya, after a perfect pass from German midfielder Bernd Schuster, easily beat goalkeeper Giorgos Mirtsos from close range.

Mexican forward Luis Garcia

also hit the crossbar in the 21st

minute, and Atlético lost yet anothminute when Mirtsos stopped a penalty kick taken by Alfaro. Olympiakos came close to scoring in the 12th minute, but goaltender Abel Resino Gómez

stopped a shot by Portuguese strik-er Daniel Batista. Olympiakos regrouped at half time and tied the score in the 64th minute with a goal by forward Giorgos Vaitsis after a center from Sotiris Mavrommatis.

But that was the only ball to get past Gomez, who blocked a series of shots in helping his team pre-

Aniwerp 0, Steama Bucharest 0: In Antwerp, the Romanian team pulled out a tie in another first-leg

Antwerp dominated the match, but failed to crack a Romanian defense in which goalkeeper Dumi-tru Stingaciu was outstanding.

Antwerp's Bosnian midfielder Dragan Jakovljevic came close early in the match, but his header went ust past the post.

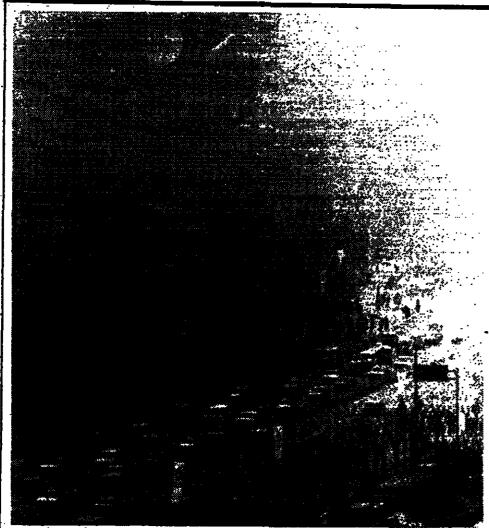
Veteran striker Alex Czerniatynski and German import Hans-Peter Lehnoff also wasted chances to put Antwerp ahead in the second

Steaus defender Bogdan Bucar : :: : was expelled and four of his teammates cautioned as the Romanians played up to their tough reputa-

Benfica 2, Juventus 1: In a UEFA Cup first-leg quarterfinal match in Lisbon, midbelder Vitor Paneira scored twice to beat the Italian team.

Paneira opened the scoring in the 12th minute off a backheeled pass by Ukrainian teammate Sergei

Gianluca Vialli tied the score from the penalty spot in the 59th minute after Benfica goal keeper Silvino Louro fouled Andreas Möller. But Benfica got the winning goal from close range in the 76th minute. (AP, Renders) (AP, Renters)



GAMES FACE — Beijing, two days before an IOC inspection group's visit that will help decide whether the city using the life for the 2006 C whether the city wins the bid for the 2000 Summer Games, was blanketed in smog Thursday.

IAAF Says Drug Test on Johnson Showed High Testosterone Level

LONDON - Ben Johnson positive test showed unusually high levels of testosterone in one of three recent drug tests, officials of the International Amateur Athletic Federation said Thursday.

"Of the three controls, there was one whose results appear suspicious," said Arne Ljungqvist, chairman of the IAAF's drug commission. "We will be examining those results Friday."

The five-member panel will meet in Paris to discuss the test carried out on Johnson at a Jan. 17 meet in

Johnson faces a lifetime ban because he was suspended once be-fore, in 1988 at the Olympics in Seoul. He was also stripped of the gold medal he won and the world record he set in the 100 meters before testing positive for steroids.

According to IAAF sources, the first and third tests taken in Canada were negative, while the second showed high levels of testosterone, a steroid-related substance that enables athletes to train more strenuously and recover more quickly.

Testosterone is listed under the category of anabolic steroids in the International Olympic Committee's anti-drug charter. It is a male hormone that normally exists in the body at a ratio of 1-to-1 to another hormone, epitestosterone. A ratio

The IAAF first declined to confirm or deny that Johnson was under investigation, then announced that its drug panel would meet in Paris to discuss Johnson's test.

"Originally the commission planned to meet at the end of the indoor season, but now that the story's out, we must have a decision quickly so that the world knows general-secretary. Istvan Gyulai. In addition to Ljungqvist, the

members of the drug commission are Dr. Gabriel Dolle of France, Professor Manfred Donike of Germany, Professor Antonio Dal Monte of Italy, and the American lawyer Frank Greenberg.
Johnson is not expected to at-

tend the meeting, nor are any of his representatives. The IAAF said that is customary for commission

If the panel confirms a positive finding. Johnson will be suspended immediately, pending an appeal hearing. Any hearing would be conducted by Athletics Canada, the nation's governing body for track and field. Final recourse would be an appeal to an IAAF arbitration panel.

• Earlier, Filip Bondy of The New York Times reported: Canadian officials are working behind the scenes to persuade Johntrack and field championships.

Athletics Canada said it had not received a positive test regarding Johnson from either the Canadian Center for Drug-Free Sports, or from the IAAF. But according to two international track and field officials close to the situation, Athletics Canada has been urging Johnson to retire from the sport for what's going on," said the IAAF's the past two weeks, since rumors began percolating about a possible

> The world indoors championships will take place in Toronto next week, and officials are deeply concerned that Johnson's problems will command more attention than

positive test.

The Toronto Star reported Wednesday that Johnson had showed a high level of testosterone. He was tested three times over a six-day period in January, after meets in Hamilton, Ontario, Montreal and Toronto.

Johnson immediately denied the use of testosterone or any drug, issuing a statement Wednesday through the Toronto law firm of imes macMcMillan Binch. "Mr. Johnson denies taking any prohibited substance or engaging in any improper practice since his return to competition," the statement read.

Johnson's manager in Toronto, Kameel Azan, said his client had

surpassing 6-to-1 is considered a son to retire before the world comes no intention of yielding to any positive test.

to Toronto next week for the indoor pressure to quit the sport.

This is a manager's nightmare," Azan said. "We're just disillusioned about the whole thing. Nobody has a positive on him. He doesn't take this thing lightly, believe me. We're just hoping and praying this thing goes away."

Johnson, who has been coached recently by Percy Duncan of Toronto, appears ready to battle any conviction or penalty. He stands a fair chance, because testosterone levels are slippery gauges. Some American stars have escaped punishment despite ratios close to 8-to

Duncan, 74, said he was "in space right now" and added, "Let's wait to hear what the IAAF has to

Reports about Johnson's training routine began in earnest in Barcelona, at the 1992 Summer Olympics, when several newspapers reported that the sprinter was back with his former coach, Charlie Francis. Johnson failed even to qualify for the finals of his specialty, the 100 meters, but made head-imes nonetheless for being banished after a tussle with a security

Francis denied Wednesday that he had resumed any relationship with Johnson. "I wasn't with him in Barcelona, and my passport proves

Deal-Making Snails Ahead In Baseball

Contracts are still in the news, but most of the numbers being discussed at this time of year are thousands, not millions.

The Atlanta Braves have threatened to renew Deion Sanders's contract Thursday. The Braves ne-gotiated with Sanders' agent, Eu-gene Parker, until late Wednesday night but could not agree on either a one-year or multiyear deal.

The Texas Rangers renewed

1992 home run champion Juan Gonzalez's contract after the two sides could not agree on a deal. "The difference in proposals be-tween the two sides on a one-year

contract was so great that we were unable to reach an agreement," said the Rangers' general manager,

Rodriguez made \$525,000 last season when he hit 43 home runs. "A renewal is not something that Grieve said.

Gonzalez, who hit .260 with 109 RBIs in 155 games last year, will be eligible to file for salary arbitration after the 1993 season.

Outfielder Moises Alou of the Montreal Expos also had his contract renewed. Alon, numer-up in National League rookie of the year voting last year, refused to sign for the club's last offer of \$210,000, so he was renewed at what he and his



circumstances, that was the only Lou Piniella, the new manager of the Seattle Mariners, turned poser for photographers outside the training camp in Peoria, Arizona. way to resolve the situation,"

figure, possibly \$200,000. Alon followed through on a

agent predicted would be a smaller Brian Barnes, first baseman Greg White Sox chairman of the board, Colbrunn and catcher Raul San-

threat to boycott the start of spring training Feb. 27, holding out for two hours. He then joined workouts after talking with his father on a one-year deal worth a reported and the Expos' manager, Felipe \$350,000.

Alon. Carlton Fisk, the 45-year-old catcher, signed a contract in the newed by the Expos were pitcher face an ultimatum by the Chicago

Jerry Reinsdorf, to report by Wednesday - the mandatory reporting date - or risk having the

\$800,000 offer rescinded.

Injuries are continued to be reported. Dave Fleming, Seattle's winningest pitcher, is undergoing

tests to determine the cause of recurring discomfort in his pitching elbow. So far, bone chips have been ruled out, but a magnetic resonance imaging test will determine if the left-hander sustained ligament or

Kansas City pitcher Mike Boddicker underwent arthroscopic sur-

gery on his left knee and is expected to be out two to four weeks. Pittsburgh center fielder Andy Van Slyke had his sore right knee examined but the magnetic resonance imaging was inconclusive. He was to undergo a CAT scan

Thursday. Bo Jackson, playing baseball for the first time in almost a year after hip replacement surgery, was hob-bled by a strained right hamstring as he trotted out two ground balls in a White Sox intrasquad game.

"The dirt out there was too soft." Jackson said. "At least I can see the ball. I'm swinging the bat a lot better than I did last year."

Vote Backs Change In Playoffs, Leagues

PHOENIX - The owners of major league baseball's team gave preliminary approval Thursday to expanded playoffs, interleague play and splitting each league into three divisions as early as 1995.

No timetable was set for the dramatic changes, but most owners said two years would be needed. They also cautioned that the changes would need approval from the Major League Baseball Players

In two votes, owners directed John Harrington of the Boston Red Sox, chairman of the schedule-format committee, to develop 1994 test schedules that will have three divisions in each league, and ver-sions with and without interleague

Bud Selig of the Milwaukee Brewers, who is chairman of the ruling executive council, said both votes were overwhelming but not unanimous, and described them as rington called it "a very important

Owners said 10 to 20 interleague games per season would be included in some draft schedules, and that the interleague games would involve natural rivalries. They said the moves were sparked by a belief that baseball needed to change.

"We're in a very competitive business with a lot of forms of entertainment," Selig said. "There's no industry that can afford to sit back."

The only interleague play since the American League formed in 1900 has been during spring training, the All-Star game and the World Series. The leagues have been divided into two divisions

Whether to change the length of the regular-season schedule from 162 games wasn't addressed in Thursday's votes. That is being left up to Harrington's group to pro-

• Earlier, Murray Chass of The New York Times reported:

As the club owners gathered six months to the day after they asked Fay Vincent to resign as commissioner, there was a growing movement among them to delay the sethey have negotiated new labor and television contracts.

A timetable for the selection of a commissioner has not been a topic of discussion at any of the seven owners meetings in the last six months. The debate has been conducted on an informal, low-key baon record as pushing for the status quo, the absence of a commission-

But the owners also risk further arousing the ire of members of Congress who have been threatening to take action against baseball's antitrust exemption. It was the owners' ouster of Vincent in September that caught the attention of some members of Congress and prompted a hearing of a Senate committee into the exemption in December.

Metzenbaum, the Democrat from Ohio who is chairman of the Senate judiciary subcommittee on antitrust, monopolies and business rights, and Senator Connie Mack. the Republican from Florida who is the grandson of baseball's legendary manager Connie Mack, in-troduced legislation aimed at end-ing baseball's antitrust exemption.

SIDELINES

Narozhilenko Breaks Record Again

SEVILLE (AP) — Lyudmila Narozhilenko of Russia twice broke her world indoor record in the 60-meter hurdles Thursday, finishing in 7.63 seconds to shave .03 seconds off the mark of 7.66 seconds she had set in a

semifinal heat less than an hour earlier.

The record is the 28-year-old runner's third in the event this week. She ran a then-record 7.68 on Tuesday in San Sebastian, Spain.

For the Record

The Handa Open golf tournament in Hamburg has been moved from

The Honda Open golf tournament in Hamburg has been moved from October to June 10-13 to fill the gap caused by the previous cancellation of the Monte Carlo Open, the PGA European Tour said.

Plans for Atlanta's Olympic Stadium were delayed again when the country board of commissioners voted against a deal letting the Atlanta Braves move into the facility after the 1996 Games.

The Kenya Amateur Athletic Association appointed a five-man panel to meet March 18 to consider the refusal of John Ngugi, the five-time world cross country champion, to take a drug test two weeks ago.

(AP)

Goran Ivanisevic, the sixth seed; No. 7 Andre Agassi and No. 8 Michael Stich were climinated as mosets continued at the Champions Cup in

Stich were eliminated as upsets continued at the Champions Cup in Indian Wells, California. Alberto Mancini of Argentina defeated Ivanisevic; Marc Rosset beat Agassi and Fabrice Santoro of France took out

Jockey Club Steps Up Fight **Against Drugging of Horses**

Renters test so there will be no charge, and then, if it is positive, the trainer will said Thursday it was stepping up its battle against racehorse dopers in bility," said the Jockey Club's head Britain by offering a reward of as much as £5,000 (\$7,250) for infor-

basis next Tuesday. It is one of a number of initia- of 45 full-time and 90 part-time

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much as £5,000 (\$1,000,000 tainty in the minds or use any mation leading to conviction.

A confidential hot line is to be because they would never know if the horse would actually run.

tives being introduced in the wake investigators, defended the deciof the "nobbling" of Flash Of Straw last Angust and Her Honour last month, officials said.

In the future, state and jockeys that suspect that a horse has been tampered with can withdraw has said "It is not sufficient to catch the stable lad with a smoking syringe," has said "It is more difficult to catch the stable lad with a smoking syringe,"

He said it would place an uncer-

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Buffbam, who commands a team

been tampered with can withdraw he said. "It is very difficult to it from a race at any time and request a drug test.

"It will be treated as a private was."

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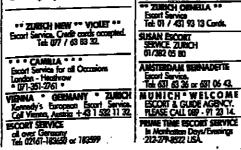


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OBSERVER

A Fork in the Logic

By Russell Baker

WASHINGTON - "White man speak with forked tongue," observed several generations of Hollywood Indians, all of whom seemed to know what they were talking about even though present-day moralizers would probably convict them of political incorrectness in the first degree.

To this day, the words come back to me whenever I contemplate the history of American racial relationships. All unwhite Americans would surely be better equipped for survival if they had grown up in homes with that antique Hollywood-Indian visdom framed in needlepoint over

It is my belief that nothing is so politically incorrect that childhood's uncorrupted mind cannot extract a nugget of enduring wisdom from it. For years, among the bits of wisdom tacked up on the inside of my skull has been a warning from that hope-lessly politically incorrect Chinese detective, Charlie Chan.

Chan was afflicted with an impetuous son who habitually jumped to the wrong conclusion about whatever his father happened to be investigating. Reprimanding this silly young man one Saturday afternoon at the Capitol Theatre, in Belleville, New Jersey, Chan said:

"He who speaks before thinking is like man who fires gun in dark

"Words to live by!" I must have instantly said to myself.

Heeding the wisdom of Charlie Chan, I have thought about this matter in minute detail, including the difficult question of whether to refer to the president's wife as the first lady. My decision: absolutely not. The word "lady" is odious to language watchers of the feminist movement, which feels protective of the president's wife.

Feminist lingo usually resolves these difficulties with the word "person," but it would be silly to call the president's wife "the first person." As every survivor of sixthgrade grammar knows, the first person is "I" — we" in the plural -and the instant you, dear reader, suspect another sixth-grade grammar lesson is afoot, you will turn this page into a paper airplane and sail it out the window, right? In short, this subject has been

thought out according to the pre-cept of Chan. This emboldens me to suggest that the president's wife

She is, of course, in charge of creating a sensible health-care program. It is a costly proposition, and speculation encouraged by the Clinton people is that new taxes on tobacco and alcohol will be re-

quired to finance the program. Why, then, has the president's wife banned smoking in the White House? The publicity flowing from her example is bound to be yet another blow to cigarette sales.

She obviously hopes to reduce cigarette consumption while counting on increased tax revenue from smokers to pay for health-care reform. Raising the tax while simul-taneously trying to cut the number of people who will pay it suggests that the health-care financing problem has not been thought out with the thoroughness Charlie Chan would have insisted on. In Hollywood-Indianspeak, it is

forked logic.
Its political wisdom is also questionable. If the health-care program is to be financed by cigarette smokers and cigarette smoking is forbidden in the White House, what are we to think except that the White House is unwilling to pay its fair share of the bill?

Fairness, Stephanopoulos! Fairness demands that the White House smoke its fair share.

Charlie Chan might suspect there is more afoot here than meets the eye. It is comforting to think that clean-living, nonsmoking, nonboozing folks can get a nice new health-care program free by riding on the backs of smoky and

It's doubtful that the Clinton people really believe this. Surely they are toying with us on the matter of health-care costs, hoping to hold down the bad tax news until their economic program can be enacted.

Meantime, consistency might impel the president's wife not only to drop the cigarette ban in the White House but to urge all Americans to lighten their tax burden by

New York Times Service

Forecast for Saturday through Monday

Playing on Brains **And Funny Bones**

By Bruce Weber

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — For anyone who saw

"Largely New York," Bill Irwin's 1989 Broadway show about a clown en-countering the city's mundane technology, watching Irwin climb aboard the treadmill at his gym in Chelsea yields a tickle of anticipation. It's a perfect gadget to en-gage frwin's comic sensibility — modern but ordinary, simple to operate but a little threatening and maybe even dangerous for

This is just an everyday workout - "Not every day," Irwin says, guiltily — but admits that he's long had it in mind to do a routine set in a gym, and so he begins experimenting. What would happen, he wonders aloud, if he took the warning on the machine to heart: if you feel faint or short of breath stop exercising immediately.

As the conveyor belt continues to convey. Irwin feigns a gasp and ceases to keep up with it. In an acrobatic instant, his feet are out from under him, his head and upper body pitched backward. His hands grab the handrails, but somehow his legs have become tangled up in the frame of the machine, requiring an elastic untwining of himself. He turns the machine off and frowns at it. It's only then that he abandons character. With a groan, he complains mild-ly about getting old. He is 42. "One of the things about clowning is

that you're calling on a bag of tricks that has to be put together over the course of a life," he says. "So I meet kids who are 19 and who are interested in clowning. And I think, 'I wish I had your muscles and your strength.' But at the same time, you realize they haven't had time, so that given a

comic opportunity they don't have nine different things to choose from." It is the physical desterity combined with a genuinely cerebral bent that gives Irwin's talents their special colors. Impulsive and curious on the one hand, perpetually flummoved and chastened on the other, Irwin's onstage personality borrows from both Charlie Chaplin and Emmett Kelly. Asked what he calls himself, he says, "An actor," though, truth be told, it isn't with firm conviction. A little later he says: "I love the word clown. I'm proud of it."

Irwin has appeared in several films (among them "Eight Men Out" and "Scenes From a Mall") and on television, in his recurring role on the CBS series "Northern Exposure." But at the moment, he's concentrating on his second Broad-way show, "Fool Moon," a clown duet with his friend David Shiner, which

opened at the Richard Rodgers Theatre last week to ebullient reviews.

An elaboration of a two-night stand the men performed at the Serious Fun festival at Lincoln Center last summer, "Fool Moon" features the music of the Red Clay Rambiers, a country-ish band. In the show, Shiner and Irwin each perform solo turns as well as bounce off each other, literally and artistically. The show also involves much audience participation, and its creators say it has something of a dramatic line, though how to describe it remains a little mysterious.

"It deals with the place of the clown in the world." Irwin says. "It has to do with making jokes about what we're afraid of." He thinks of it as a family show, particularly appropriate for children. But as in many clown shows, it has a lot of antic danger and last-minute rescue, a lot of bopping and bashing.

"It's all about violence," Irwin says, making a clown face and laughing a cha-grined laugh. "Why it's funny. I honestly don't know.

"I've taught a lot of clown shtick," he says, "and a lot of the students, the collegiate students particularly, think: 'I would never do that sort of clowning. The violence. It's abhorrent to me.' And then, in class, somebody will just get it right, really swing their arm and get it right, and every-body goes, 'Oooooh!'

The process of making physical comedy, he says, is different from verbal comedy. more primal. But the guidelines are more clusive. What's funny ends up being a matter of what "feels right."

By the same token, he says, people who are not comics tend to see a thing as either funny or not funny. "But for me," he nes, "in between there's all kinds of gradations. I've been on stage and done something, and it was a pretty big laugh but I thought to myself: Ouch! Going in the wrong direction,' because it was a laugh about the wrong thing."

A fair-complexioned, compactly built man with a gentle manner and a voice that bends rather musically in rumination, Irwin lives in a loft near the gym with his wife, Martha Roth, a former actress who is now a student midwife. They met 11 years ago, when she was a masseuse and he had a crick in his neck. They have adopted a Guatemalan baby, now 2.

To get to this point, Irwin has traveled a peripatetic path. He was born in Southern California and grew up mostly in Tulsa,



Oklahoma, where his father worked as an neronautical engineer. He spent his last year in high school as an exchange student in Belfast. He has a degree in theater arts from Oberlin College in Ohio, and in 1974 he graduated from Ringling Brothers and Bar-num & Bailey's Clown College in Venice,

"I had this weird schizophrenia going," he says. "I was doing work in extremely intellectual, avant-garde, hermetically sealed theater. But then I'd go to the li brary and read about clowns."

He says the clown college taught him what I wanted to learn: how to trip and fail down." The school, where he has since been back to teach, "is a weird and won-

Irwin lived in San Francisco for 10 years, acting, clowning and developing his performance pieces. In 1984 he received a five-year MacArthur Foundation stipend that, he acknowledges, changed his life. "It allowed me to experiment," he says.

"Largely New York" owes its existence to the MacArthur."

Even with television and movies a regular part of his professional life, his talents have been most fully showcased on the stage, both in his own concoctions and in two productions of Samuel Beckett plays. He admits that as an actor he can some times trip on clumsy clown's feet. "You use different muscles," he says. "Some-times I'll go in for an audition and I'll

approach the part as an actor, looking for an interesting tack to take on the text. And the casting person will say to the director: This is Bill Irwin. I don't know whether you know him, but he does the funniest falling-down stuff, ha ha ha ha.' And suddenly I'm thinking I have something to prove. So I'm doing the scene trying to throw some shick in there to prove how right the guy was, and then I might as well give up because I'm there neither as a clown nor as an actor. I'm stuck some-

PEOPLE

Radio Days With Dad:

Reagan's Son on the Air Reagans redux. Michael Reagans, the adopted son of former President Rouald Reagan and the actress Jame Wyman, has rediscovered his dad and taken to national radio with a syndicated show. The angry young man — who once publicly complained that his father never his requires the propagest child until she was met his youngest child until she was nearly 2 — is taking a more senti-mental approach. "I spend more time with him now than ever," he told The Washington Post. "I took the initiative of hogging him and telling him I love him." Meanwhile, Ron Reagan is taking another crack at television, this time on the Fox network. The son of the former president and Nancy Reagan will be a correspondent for a prime time news magazine. He used to have a late-night talk show, and was a correspondent for ABC's "Good Morning America."

The Grammy-winning reggae performer Shabba Ranks was pulled from "The Tonight Show" guest incap because of anti-gay remarks he had made earlier. He later apolone had made earner. He later apolo-gized for the remarks, made in De-cember on the British TV talk show "The Word." Ranks had said "Boom Bye Bye," a song by Buju Banton advocating violence against gays, was "most definitely right." His publicist said he had agreed to produce and distribute a public ser-vice announcement convening viovice announcement opposing viclence against homosexuals.

The only known copy of an Oliver Hardy film Jost for decades has been presented to the Netherlands Film Museum by a private collector. The film, "A Bankrupt Honeymoon." was given to the museum after a previously lost Stan Laurel film attracted huge attention at the Ollie Centennial in Amsterdam last year. The new acquisition stars Hardy, without his sidekick, Laurel.

A heavy cold has forced Queen Elizabeth to cancel engagements, her second illness in about two months . . In Nepal, Princess Disna spent an hour visiting with patients in a leprosy hospital.

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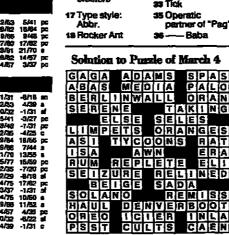
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WEATHER



idal sunshine Saturciay, then Sunday will be bright and sunny. There might be a shower in Tokyo and Osaka Saturday, followed by some sunshine for Sunday. Typically warm, humid weather is will have dry, tranquil weath-er this weekend. A storm

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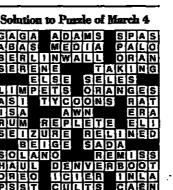


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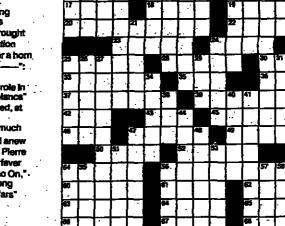
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BOOKS

SWING, SWING, SWING: The Life and Times of Benny Goodman

By Ross Firestone. 522 pages. \$29.95. Norton.

Reviewed by Jonathan Yardley

BENNY GOODMAN lived a long, successful and decidedly public life but he was the most private of men, one who kept to himself just about every emotion save impatience and/or anger with those less gifted and disciplined than he. Though it was self-evident that the driving experience of his life was a needy childhood in Chicago, he rarely talked about this or anything else that carried heavy psychological weight; he believed thoughts to himself, and he practiced as he preached.

His life's story is thus an uncommonly difficult challenge for a bi- od from the mid-'30s until the end ographer. On the one hand it contains a public calendar crammed to overflowing with everything from recording dates to night-club appearances to film contracts to Eupean tours, yet on the other hand it offers precious little of the inner self so essential if a biography is to be anything more than a mere cata-

Given that he is up against these considerable limitations, Ross Firestone must be saluted for bringing Benny Goodman back to life in remarkably vivid fashion. To be sure, "Swing, Swing, Swing" will

that a man should keep his cally, but their numbers are far Goodman was the most celebrat-

ed figure of the swing era, the peridominated popular music and when jazz came closer than ever before or since to a central place in American mass culture. He was an exquisitely gifted clarinetist and a whose decidedly prickly personal-ity made him more than his share of enemies. He was a central figure in the move of jazz from the nightclub to the concert hall and in the removal of racial barriers from jazz

and popular music. He was the son of Eastern European Jews, immigrants who met be of interest chiefly to lovers of and married in Baltimore, then jazz and popular music, the music moved to Chicago, where Benny of Benny Goodman most specifi- was born in 1909. As a youth he

in that city's astonishing jazz world, where black musicians who had come up the river from New whites eager to learn at their knees. Although Goodman played mostly with white contemporaries, he was heavily influenced by Johnny Dodds, Louis Armstrong and other black greats; the influence was

both musical and cultural. His apprencticeship was long and nally hard, but he knew early on that he wanted to lead a band and pressed toward that goal with single-minded intensity. When at last he reached it, he quickly reached compact disks would have been useful. But these really are quiblar music comparable to that enjoyed by Frank Sinatra. joyed by Frank Sinatra.

Eventually, of course, it faded. The story of Goodman's life from the end of the war until his death in The Washington Post.

was both participant and observer 1986 is one of attempts to cope with a changing culture. Firestone covers all of this in careful detail. The central figures of Goodman's musical life are all here. So too is his wife, Alice, and the woman with whom he became involved after her death, Carol Phillips. Firestone's omissions are dis-

tinctly minor. He does not explain why young Benny was allowed by his parents to go directly into jazz rather than classical music. He also provides no discography; though a full one would be as long as the book itself, a shorter one of Goodman performances available on

Jonathan Yardley is on the staff of

By Alan Truscott

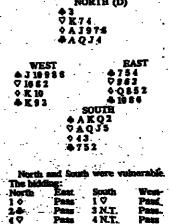
N the diagram deal, played re-cently in London in a highgame, North might have passed three no-trumps, since his partner was obviously well protected in spades, but he corrected to four hearts. South corrected back to four no-trump, expressing a wish to play that contract. This was right in theory, since a player who bids three no-trump naturally cannot then wish to bid Blackwood, but wrong in practice, since it opened

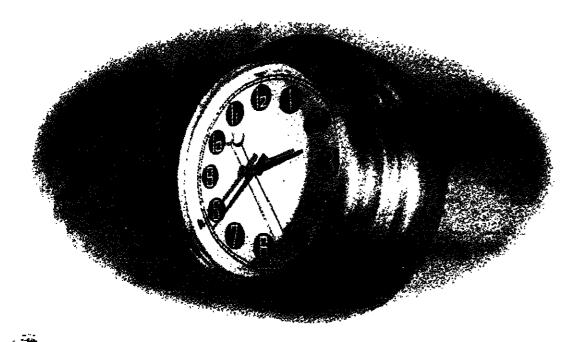
North promptly responded to Blackwood, showing two aces, and a disgruntled South settled in six no-trump. This contract was slightly optimistic, but South could see hances after West led the spade jack and the dummy appeared. He had to work on one of the minor

BRIDGE suits, and would have succeeded if he had selected clubs, which hap-

pened to lie well. But after winning the spade lead South led a diamond and West pur up the king, a good second-h play. South took the ace, led a heart to the jack, and played a second diamond. He was pleased when the ten appeared, but not quite so the trick. He led another diamond hoping that West had begun with K-Q-10, but was deflated when East took two diamond tricks to defeat the slam.

The East player, who held up his diamond queen promptly and so was Robert Sheehan, who has long been one of Britain's brightest stars. If he had taken his queen





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